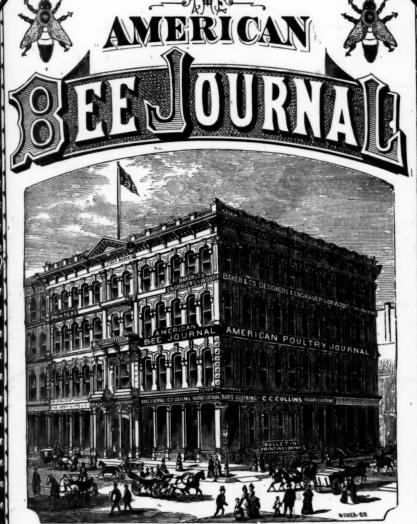
Vol. XII.

AUGUST, 1876.

No. 8.





HONEY JARS.

One pou	nd (s	quars)	Но	ney	Jare	, P	gross	\$6.5 ⁰ 8.50
One	16	6.6		64	** fl	int	glass	" 9.00
Two	44	44		46	44	66	46 6	11.00
Corks for	Caps	1 and	2 16	jar	s per	gro	SS	1.20
Labels f	or	86	.64	6.6	6.6	41	•	.75
prin	Fruit or sar sand ted to	Jars () ne Labels order	Mas s fo	on's	ame	.) P	ddre	.65 .65 4.00
Uncapp	ng K	nives,	88 [good	as a	ny,	each er do	z. 4.50
Alsike (love	Seed,	per	bus	hel.			. 13.50
66	66	66	-66	pecl	K			. 3.50
44	6.6	46	44	pou	nd			40

LANGSTROTH'S BEE-HIVES,

Straw Mats. Bee-Veils, Alsike Clover Seed, etc., at reasonable rates. For further particulars address,

CHAS. F. MUTH, Cincinnati, Ohio.

BRADSHAW & WAIT,

CHICAGO STEAM SYRUP REFINERY, WHOLESALE DEALERS IN

Honey, Maple Syrup, &c.

Choice White Honey Wanted. Nos. 17 & 19 MICHIGAN AVE.,

CHICAGO, ILL.

aprlyr

The Italian Bee Co.

-Mrs, Ellen S. Tupper's onnection with the Italian Bee Company ter-minated February 26, 1876. The business of the Company has been assigned to the man-agement of the undersigned. Mrs. Tupper leaves no accounts, and full particulars upon all incomplete business sent to her or the Company is desired immediately. J. E. ROCKWOOD, Manager.

March 1st, 1876.

In our Price List for 1876, we offer Queens, Nuclei and Full Colonies; Honey Extractors, "Our Own," and others, "Our Own" Dollar Hive, simple and complete; "Bees and their Management," by Mrs. Tupper; Seeds of Honey Plants, and all other Apiarian sup-

Our Queens are raised from IMPORTED MO-THERS of undoubted purity. They are tested

and warranted.

Send name for price list, etc. Send ques-tions with stamp, and we will freely answer

The Italian Bee Co., Manager. Logan, Iowa. Always address The Ital J. E. ROCKWOOD, Manager. aprly



Morgan,

OLD FORT, N. CAROLINA.

A few surplus Queens will be sold this season at \$3 each for Tested, and \$1 for Untested

Orders filled in rotation and satisfaction guaranteed.
Address RUFUS MORGAN
Old Fort, N. Carolina.

\$12 a day at home. Agents wanted. Outfit and terms free. TRUE & Co., Augusta, Maine.

CHAPMAN'S

IMPROVED



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HONEY EXTRACTOR

The Best Honey Extractor Made.

They are Strong and Durable, yet very Light, and Easily Handled.

A geared machine, with stationary can-nothing but the combs of honey revolve. A lady or child can work it satisfactorily, and

Every Machine Fully Warranted. One Curved-blade Knile furnished with

each machine. In ordering give outside length of bar, and depth of frame. Address,

F. W. CHAPMAN, Morrison, Ill.

Also for sale at the office of THE AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL; Dr. J. H. P. Brown, Augusta, Ga., and Dr. John Maxson, Whitewater, Wis.

THE ABBOTT

Pocket Microscope



Is an Instrument of great ractical usefulness to Teachers, Farmers, Merchants, Mechanics, Physicians, Botanists, Miners, and many others. It is the best

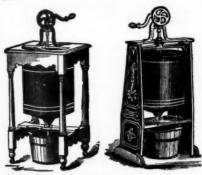
nt ever invented for examining Flor ers, Seeds, Plants, Minerals, Engravings, Bank Notes, Fabrics, Etc. By means of a cage, accompanying each instrument, one can examine all kinds of insects or Worms alive. The

EYE OF A FLY,

or other insect of like size, can be readily seen. It is simple in construction and easy to operate. One of these interesting Instruments ought to be in every family. We have made arrangements to furnish the **Pocket Microscope** at the manufacturer's price, \$1.50. It will be sent, postpaid, to any reader of this Paper desiring it, on receipt of price, or may be had at this office.

Address,

THOMAS G. NEWMAN, 184 C'ark Street, Chicago, Ill



Thankful for past patronage, we again present our card for the coming season, hoping to be able to supply our numerous customers with the Cheapest and Best Aplarian Supplies in the Market, consisting in part

HONEY EXTRACTORS

AND KNIVES,

Wax Extractors, Bee-Hives, made or cut for nailing, Honey Boxes, Square Honey Jars, Labels, Corks and Caps to fit, Bee Feeders, Bee Vells, Rubber 6-boves, Our New Smoker, Safety Queen Cages, Straw Mats,

ALSIKE CLOVER SEED.

Full stocks of Italian Bees, also Imported and Home-bred Italian Queens, of the highest grade of purity. For further particulars address all letters and orders to
J. W. WINDER & CO.,
Importers and breeders of Italian Bees,
305 Plum St., Cincinnati, Ohio.
SOUTHERN BEE - KEEPERS wanting
Queens or information, will address,
J. W. WINDER & CO., Point Coupee, La. inneam

Imported Bees from Italy.

We continue to import Bees from Italy every two weeks during the season, as we did last year, and we offer them for sale as usual.

Prices: Imported Queen - \$10 00 " Home Bred, Tested - 5 00

We guarantee safe arrival of Queens. We can furnish to our customers the best references among the most noted Bee-Keepers of America and Europe. We sell none but healthy and prolific Queens.

We wish the reader to bear in mind that nine-tenths of the American Queen Breeders are now breeding from Queens imported through us. Many of them purchase imported Queens from us every year.

every year.

If necessary we will give to those of our customers who wish it, evidence that we receive 22 Queens from Italy everp two weeks during the summer, from May to October.

CH. DADANT & SON. Address julytf Hamilton, Hancock Co., Ill.

\$3.00 ITALIAN QUEENS

We can now supply good, tested, Italian Queens for \$3.00 each, or TWO for \$5.00.

Address

T. G. NEWMAN, 184 Clark Street, Chicago.

CANADA HONEY EXTRACTOR.

MADE ENTIRELY OF METAL.

Price \$8.50 to \$10.00.

The lightest, strongest, handlest and best. You can save \$5.00 in express charges, passing the customs and duty by ordering from me. I manufacture for Canadians, to save them the manuacture for Canadians, to save them the enormous expense and trouble of importing. In ordering, give outside dimensions of frame or frames to be used. Sample hives, the best for Canada, (no patent) complete, \$1.50 each. Italian queens and bees for sale in the season. Comb foundations for sale cheaper than ever. D. A. JONES.

Beeton P. O., Ontario, Canada.

ITALIAN QUEEN



Highest Grade of Purity, Sent by mail post-paid at the following prices:

Tested Queens, each..\$3 Warranted Queens...\$2

These Queens are all young and bred from IMPORTED MOTHERS, and those who purchase tested Queens, can rely on them to breed from.

Queens furnished on short notice, and in all cases, purity and safe arrival is guaranteed.

Pure Bred Poultry!

I also breed Buff and Part idge Cochins, Brown Leghorn and S. S. Hamburg Chickens. E_Mgs of the above varieties for hatching safely packed and shipped by express, at \$1.50 per doz. Safe arriva guaranteed. Address,

T. N. HOLLETT, Pennsville, Morgan Co, Ohio

CHICKEN CHOLER

Any one who desires to have a scientific and reliable explanation of the CAUSE OF CHICKEN CHOLERA, and wishes to know how it may be

Entirely Prevented

Entirely Prevented also CURED AND EXTERMINATED where it prevails, should send to A. J. Hill, and get his book on Chicken Cholera.

Being an experienced poultry breeder, he has been successful in ascertaining the Cause of Chicken Cholera, and in devising means for its Prevention, and its Cure and Extermination. His book is a thorough treatise on the subject, giving information that will enable any one to protect their fowls from the ravages of Cholera, or cure and exterminate that disease The means recommended for baffling the disease are sensible, rational and effectual.

The book will be sent to any one by mail for 50 cents, or a Descriptive Circular for a stamp.

Address A. J. HILL, apr6m Burbank, Wayne Co., Ohlo.

\$5 to \$20 per day at home. Samples worth \$1 free. STINSON & Co., nov75y1

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Our Letter Box

ITALIAN QUEENS.

After Aug. 1st, I will sell Italian Queens in orders of F1VE at \$1.40 each. My queens are beautiful, and warranted to give satisfaction. Purity and safe arrival guaranteed. J. E. KEARNS, Waterloo, Juniata Co., Pa.

BEE-KEEPERS' GUIDE,

Containing 500 Valuable Suggestions on Bee Culture. A perfect treasure of entertaining knowledge to those owning bees; has 200 pages and 60 cuts; price in cloth back, 80 cents. F. CASEY, Harrisonville, Ohio.

FEEDER!

Rev. W. E. Hamilton's Patent Feeder is the best in use. Every bee-keeper who has ever seen it, uses it. Feeds in any weather, thick or thin feed Never wears out, leaks feed, nor drowns bees

Individual State and County rights for sale. Sample by mail, 60 cts.; per doz. by express, 200. Give the size of top bar of your frame.

REV. W. E. HAMILTON, Plum Hollow, Iowa. Address

FINN'S

POROUS

Winters Safely on Summer Stands.

It has Been in Use 5 Years and gives Universal Satisfaction.

Satisfaction guaranteed on a fair trial of two

Satisfaction guaranteed on a fair trial of two years, or money refunded.

Farm right \$6. Right and one hive \$10. In any township where the hive has not been introduced, we will sell Hives and Right for \$6, with the privilege of Farm Rights at wholesale prices. Circular of testimonials free. Agents wanted. For recommendations, see American Right Johnson, for Dec., 1574. CAN BEE JOURNAL for Dec., 1874. Address KEYES & FINN,

augtf Clyde, Jasper Co., Iowa.

INTERING

Owing to the great labor and expense of wintering bees in the North, also the great losses that have occured, has induced me to offer my services to Northern friends to winter their bees for them, in Louisiana. It can be done most successfully and the bees be in a strong and healthy condition in the spring. The charges on steamers between Cincinnati, St. Louis, and New Orleans or intermediate points are from 30 to 40 cents per hive, owing to the class of boat. Parties wishing to send bees South should correspond soon.

WARKEN B. RUSH,

July 12, 1876.

Pointe Coupee, La,

July 12, 1876,

In every State in the U.S.

To take orders on liberal commission for some thing generally needed everywhere, cents for an outfit and go to work. Address

NorthWestern Advertising Co., 184 Clark St., Chicago.

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LANGSTROTH HIVES.

l	Two-story, containing 21 frames each		
I	do. with 10 frames & 9 honey boxes	4.00	
ı	Materials for Hives, ready to nail to-		
1	gether, in lots of 30 or more, each	1.00	
l	Materials, ready to nail, for hives, frames		
ł	and boxes, in lots of no less than ten		
1	each	2.75	
1			
ı	EXTRACTORS.		
1	C11 1 - 10 - 00 C 1 - 1	40.00	

Chapman's lox20 frame, plain	
" over 10 in. deep, plain	13,00
Murphy's No. 1, \$16,00; No. 2, \$15,50; No.	
3, \$15.00; No. 4	13.50
Peabody's	10,00
Winder's, No. 2, \$15; No. 3	18,00
A. I. Root's [all metal]\$8,50 and	10.00
Hill's Gas Pipe Extractor	8.00

MISCELLANEOUS.	
Muth's uncapping knives	.50
Long rubber gloves, postpaid, per pair	2.00
Quinby's Smoker, postage paid	1.75
Bee Veil, complete face protection	.75
Sample of Comb Foundation, by mail	.10
Abbott Pocket Microscope	1.50
Queen Cages each,	.80
Send by Postal Money Order Dra	ft or

Registered Letter, at our risk. Address,

T. G. NEWMAN,

184 Clark St., Chicago, Ill.

Again Wintered Successfully.

Tested Queens or full Colonies furnished again this season, "In My Non-Pat. Hives." No useless traps or fixings about them. Safe arrival guaranteed on Queens and Colonies. Prices free. JOSEPH M. BROOKS, seply Columbus, Ind., Box 130.

German Bee Sting Cure.

Is free from all poison, and may be successfully used in all insect bites. Price \$1.00 per bottle. Sent only by express.

For sale at the Office of THE AMERICAN

BEE JOURNAL.

AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL.

DEVOTED EXCLUSIVELY TO BEE CULTURE.

VOL. XII.

CHICAGO, AUGUST, 1876.

Our Exchanges.

Boil it down! Boil it down! Give us the new and useful points— The good—and that's enough! Boil it down!

GLEANINGS.

Comb Foundations—Novice says: "A small amount of yellow wax—1 part in 4—will temper the paraffine so that it works beautifully; but with the white wax bought for perfectly pure, of the wax bleachers themselves, we are obliged to use two parts of wax to one of paraffine. This looks very much indeed as if the white wax, were not wax, but it may be well to exercise charity, for the bleaching process certainly raises the melting point, and may likewise change its tenacity. Well we were going along beautifully, putting pieces into the hives meanwhile, which worked as nicely as could be desired, until our very hot weather COMB FOUNDATIONS -Novice says: "A beautifully, putting pieces as nicely as meanwhile, which worked as nicely as could be desired, until our very hot weather of the 13th and 14th, when we were alarmed to find the cells stretching themselves downward into ovals instead of hexagons, and it was really amusing to see the troubled look on the countenances (?) of the young bees as they surveyed the work, after repeated attempts at patching up and repairing. The sight of their discomfiture repairing. The sight of their discomfiture created some merriment among our juveniles, but we gave a faithful promise to the bees, which same shall be extended to our patrons, that hereafter they should have material that would stand a degree of heat fully equal to that of yellow wax at least.

"We can get pure white wax for 50 cents, and foundations made of this will doubtless and foundations made of this will doubtless."

and foundations made of this will doubtless answer every purpose; but unless the paraffine can be worked in we cannot well make the price less than \$1.00 per fb., whereas if the paraffine can be made available, we hope to be able to furnish it in quantities,

as low as 50c. "Further experiments show that one part of yellow wax to three of paraffine is so nearly white that it will never be distinguished from that made with white wax; and the melting point is so high, that they will stand safely, exposure in the sun that natural combs would not. If the matter can be arranged so that we can use one article for both brood and guide combs, it will save considerable trouble; and when we get over the present rush, we hope to furnish this article for 50 cents in quantities of 10 bs. or upwards."

HIVING NATURAL SWARMS.—"Keep a green bush tied to the teeth of a common wooden rake, and a queen cage tied to the tinguished from that made with white wax;

wooden rake, and a queen cage tied to the bush. When the bees swarm, catch the queen and put her into the cage, then hold her up among the bees, or fasten the rake near where they are clustering, and your

swarm is in very convenient shape to handle. Your wife can do it all, after a little practice."

little practice. little practice."

Novice's Honey Box.—"The top and bottom are wood, and are about 3-16 in thickness. A small hole is drilled ½ of an inch from each corner, and a long, slim screw is put through tops, and screwed into bottoms. By turning these screws down it is plain that you can draw the wood so firmly against the glass, as to cause them to sink slightly into the wood. The screw is just inside the glass which rests against it. sink slightly into the wood. The screw is just inside the glass which rests against it. If you wish it more ornamental, fold square a ½ inch strip of tin, that is 1-16 longer than the glass; this will cut into the wood, under pressure of the screws, and holds the glass in place, even if it be not cut very accurately. To give you an idea of how cheanly by The Carlot of in the bottom boards before they are ripped off from a block in the same way."

BEE WORLD. EXTRACTING HONEY.— Rev. M. Mahin, in an excellent article on extracted honey and the use of the extractor, says:

and the use of the extractor, says:

The best time in the day to perform the operation is the time when the bees are busiest gathering honey; and that depends upon the sources of supply. Some flowers yield honey only in the morning, as buckwheat; others yield most abundantly in the heat of the day, as white clover. When bees are gathering honey plentifully, extracting can be done anywhere, and robbing will not be induced, and no bees will disturb the exposed honey. At other times great care is necessary. The hives must be kept open as short a time as possible, and great care is necessary. The hives must be kept open as short a time as possible, and the extracting must be done in a room that bees can have no access to. At such times all opening of hives should be done very early in the morning before many bees are astir, or late in the afternoon when activity has mostly ceased.

The World complains of W. H. Furman and T. H. B. Woody, who owe it for advertising and do neither pay nor answer letters, asking for payment. The latter owes the A. B. J. over \$25, but it can get no word from him of any sort.

BEE-KEEPERS' MAGAZINE.

Novice will be after the B. K. M. with a sharp stick, as it was the last one of the monthlies to reach us this month; not getting here till the 20th.

THORNS FOR TRANSFERRING.— "While at our office a few days since, Capt. J. E.

Hetherington stated that \$1,000 cash would not induce him to abandon the use of thorns in transferring and go back to the ordinary methods now in use. For uniting the small pieces of comb these thorns are used as dowell pins, and being very hard and smooth, the bees never gnaw them out. They are also inserted through the side bars of the frames into the edges of the combs, and transfer frames should have the side bars pierced to admit the thorns before commencing the operation of transferring."

Capt. Hetherington is high authority, but what use can he have for so much transferring? Most men with an established apiary could take the \$1,000 cash and buy all the stocks, already transferred, that they would ever want to transfer.

ARTIFICIAL TABLETS.—An article written by J. Mehring for the Bienen Zeitung, for March, 1859, is translated for the B. K. M., giving some account of comb foundation, or as Mr. Mehring expresses it, "artificial tablets," invented by him. He does not seem to claim so much for the saving of wax, as for the increased amount of ground upon which the bees can be actually at work, instead of the majority of the bees hanging idly in festoons with only a small number actually at work on the newly begun comb. He says, "One thinks of a field in which potatoes are to be hilled, and at every hill imagine a workman. Thus may it well be expected that the work will be sooner finished than if only a few workmen should commence at one end, while the majority were obliged to stay hanging about the field." As he could use no extractor at that time he did the next best thing, and says, "As the bees began to seal the honey in these beautiful honey combs, and I, so to speak, thought them ripe for the harvest, I took a sharp, crooked knife, shaved off the cells built by the bees, together with the honey, to the middle wall, and then hung the original artificial tablet again in the bee hive, while the building up was carried once more extremly rapidly forward."

APICULTURE AT THE CENTENNIAL.-R. McKean Jones says "The display of apicultural supplies at the Centennial Exhibition is most lamentably deficient; indeed, were it not for the efforts of one or two foreign exhibitors, there would be scarcely any representation at all." At the time of his writing, J. S. Harbison and J. S. Coe were the only American exhibitors, and he remarks "In consequence of this neglect of American bee-keepers, the small number of exhibits which are to be found in the Exhibition are so scattered that it is almost impossible to compare them intelligently. As the matter stands at present every nation that makes any display whatever of

apicultural instruments and supplies is in advance of this country." He justly thinks that this will give a false impression in view of the great advances that have been made in this country.

PATENT REVOKED.—The B. K. M. says the patent granted C. O. Perrine on the Weiss foundation machine has been revoked.

BRITISH BEE JOURNAL.

So far, the season seems to be not a very good one in England, but they are hoping for better things in the latter part of the season.

Bee shows seem to be quite an item in England. The advertisement of the third exhibition of the British Bee-Keepers' Association with the schedule of prizes occupies a page and a half, prizes running as high as five pounds sterling. It looks rather odd to see a prize offered for "the best and cheapest skep for depriving purposes," by which we understand one without movable frames. Speaking of the prizes for hives the B. B. J. says:

One notable feature we have had the satisfaction of introducing as regards hives, which is, that all those entered for competition in the various classes (for sale) shall be fitted with guides ready for use. This at first may see a triding innovation; but as every exhibitor will be required to guarantee that he will supply hives to pattern, etc., it really means that the onus of fixing guides shall in future lie with the vendor, instead of the purchaser. This, we feel, will be a great boon, especially where hives are supplied to cottagers, or where the system is used for the first time; and as skilfull hive-makers will be able to fix the guides at a minimum cost, one of the bothers' in the bar-frame system will be got rid of, and the principle will, we trust, prove more generally acceptable since, with very little care, straight combs will be the rule and not the exception.

This is a step in the right direction. Can we not go a step father and have hives furnished with frames filled with comb foundation—always provided that foundations prove a success?

A correspondent of the British Bee Journal sends to that paper larvæ of the waxmoth for information, saying, "I showed them to a very intelligent and practised bee-keeper, who could give me no information on the subject." That correspondent could not keep bees very long in this courtry without making the acquaintance of the aforesaid pest.

WINDER'S QUEEN CAGES are on sale at our office. These cages are made of tin and wire cloth, having at one end provision for holding a piece of honey comb or a sponge filled with syrup or water. Over this is fitted closely a tin cap or cover. Throed is fairly thing anxion the sion real

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From present reports the honey crop of 1876 will be much beyond the average. Through sections over which we have passed in Illinois and Iowa, the ground was fairly white with clover, exceeding anything we have ever seen. The principal anxiety with many, will be to find a market We advise patience. for their honey. Those who are unwilling to wait, but send at once all their crop to dealers or commission merchants in the large cities will not realize as much as those who take time to work off their crop on the markets nearer home. Dealers in the large cities will only buy now at very low prices, for the supply will for the next month or two be far beyond the demand. Producers can better afford to hold the crop than can the dealers. A large number can more easily hold \$100 each than can a few dealers \$10,000 each.

The special danger in a season like the present is that in many hives there will not

ROOM FOR THE QUEEN.

The very prosperity of some colonies will prove their ruin. As fast as the young bees hatch out, the cells will be filled with honey, leaving no room for the queen to lay; so that the stronger the colony may be at such a time, the weaker it is bound to be afterward, without help from the owner. But few young bees will be left in the hive, the owner "hefts" it and is pleased with his heavy stock, but these old bees die off through the winter and spring, combs filled with honey not being the best to winter in, and before the next season commences, the remark is made, "I lost one of my best stocks; I can't account for it, for they left the hive full of honey." See to it then that at all times at least one or two of the outside combs shall be kept emptied by the extractor so long as honey is coming in. Even at this time of the year it will pay you to buy an extractor, if thereby you can save the only two stocks you may have.

Printed pamphets and books (not circulars) can now be sent through the mails at one cent for each two ounces or fraction thereof. The postage on the third-class matter (merchandise, etc.) remains unaltered, one cent for each ounce. The sender of any article of the third-class of mail matter may write his or her name or address therein, or on the outside thereof, with the word "From" above or preceding the same, or may write, briefly, or print on any package, the number and names of the articles enclosed.

CENTENNIAL HONEY SHOW.—We learn that the June display of honey at the Centennial was an utter failure. Probably one reason for this lies in the fact that beekeepers were-very busy at that time, and many of them had as yet taken very little honey.

The special display set for Oct. 23 to Nov. 1 comes at a time when there will be more leisure and the crop will be mainly harvested. If managed rightly there may be a grand display at that time. We hope there may be no half way business about it; that there may be a creditable show, or the thing given up entirely.

Those who contemplate exhibiting, if they have not already obtained all desired information, can do so by addressing Burnet Landreth, Chief of Bureau of Agriculture, Philadelphia.

We have received a few complaints that the Journal for June was not receiv-The fault must have been with the Post Office Department. If the JOURNAL does not arrive during the month, a postal card should be sent to this office stating its non-arrival, and giving the name and address in full, and at once we will send another copy. When it is delayed several months we cannot always send the number required. There is no use of delay, for we send out each issue in time to reach every subscriber during the month, even those afar off in Italy, Germany, England, France, Russia, and Australia. They should reach every part of the United States and Canada before the 10th.

As we wish to give all the news concerning the production of comb foundation, we would invite any one who may have bought and used one of King & Slocum's Patent Machines, to send us a statement of results.

Our Canadian subscribers will be pleased to learn that hereafter they can obtain Postal Money Orders on the United States, thus securing absolute safety in sending remittances.

We have received a very interesting account published in the Utica (N. Y.) Herald, of the apiary of R. Bacon, for the last season. We should be pleased to have a report of Mr. Bacon's success during the present season.

SEND NAMES.—Our triends will greatly oblige us by sending the names of such of their neighbors as keep bees and do not take THE AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, and we will send them a sample copy.

Saugatuck, Mich., June 13, 1876.—"Last Friday I transferred and divided a heavy swarm of bees; making two new swarms in new hives. The queenless colony received a little more than half the bees and half the combs. Seven hours after dividing I inserted a queen cell in the queenless colony. The next day the bees in the queenless colony hung out heavily as though crowded for room, though they could not have been. The colony with a queen was quiet and contented. Sunday a heavy swarm issued from the queenless colony before the queen had hatched. Can you explain the cause? Do swarms often come out without a queen? This swarm acted as though it had a queen, but where did she come from?

Would you advise moving bees four miles to a better honey location this month

(June)?

Have 35 swarms, all in good condition. Some swarms have capped 40 fbs. of white

clover honey in boxes.

Wintered out doors by packing hives in straw. in boxes 4 inches larger all around than the hives.

Did not lose a swarm. All, even the very weak ones seemed in better condition in the spring than last fall.

How can second swarms be prevented

from issuing?

Are queen cells always started before the first swarm issues? WALTER B. HOUSE.

Without your noticing it there may have been queen cells beside the one you inserted, and a little older. As soon as the first queen hatched she may have left with a swarm. We do not think a swarm would come off without there being any queen in You do not say whether the the hive. swarm which came off was hived and remained. If so they had a queen. Sometimes a swarm will leave and the queen being unable to fly will fall on the ground near the hive, but in such case the swarm will return to the hive.

It may pay to move bees four miles at any time, provided there is gain enough in the pasturage. We should want all the honey extracted before moving at such a season, and would want the bees to have plenty of ventilation on their journey.

Formerly it was supposed that bees would never swarm without having queen cells started, but since the coming of Italians there are many exceptions to the rule.

Second swarms can be prevented by cutting out all but one queen cell. It is not easy to do this in all cases, for sometimes a cell may be built in such a way as to escape ordinary observation. With box hives it is almost impossible. An easy plan with either box or frame hives is to set the new swarm, as soon as it is hived, in place of the old one, removing the old one to a new position. All the bees which go out to gather honey, for a day or two, join the new swarm on their return, thus strengthening the new colony and weakening the old one so much that it will not swarm again, allowing all queens but one to be killed. As immense numbers of young bees are hatching out in the old hive the places of those that have been left will soon be made good, We have never experienced any loss from this course, but the British Bee Journal advises care for fear the great depletion may leave the brood in the old hive unprotected, so that it may be chilled. Possibly, the difference in climate may have something to do with it, but we should have little fear in our hot, dry climate, especially as at swarming, the brood is mainly sealed, which requires less protection than that which is unsealed.

Centerville, Iowa, June 19, 1876.-I have 8 Italian queens all reared this spring. queens were hatched May 31, and no eggs queens were natched May 31, and no eggs
were seen in hives or boxes in which I
reared my queens until June 8; I examined
them every day. Then I found from 1 to 6
eggs in a cell. This I found in 3 of my
small boxes, and the hive that I hatched my
queens in. I write to ask whether this is a
common occurence with young queens?
When is the best time to ship bees? Will
it not do to ship bees in Santonburg Octa-

it not do to ship bees in September or October? If so, give directions how to ventilate them in the Langstroth and American hive, so they will go through safely from Centerville, Iowa to Central or Southern Kansas.

Young queens do not usually commence laying until several days after hatching out.

Bees are usually moved in spring. More care would be necessary in September or October as the combs would then be heavier. Ventilation should be given by wire cloth tacked on at the portico or entrance, and also space given on top for air, covered with wire cloth.

Baldwin, Kansas, July 12, 1876.—EDITOR BEE JOURNAL: I send you a plant for identification. It grows abundantly on the prairie where the grass has been trodden out. It grows from 2 to 3 feet high and continues in blossom for a number of weeks. The bees are working on it and it seems to afford considerable honey. Bees are now having a "sweet thing of it" on many wild flowers and also on corn. This will be a flowers and also on corn. This will be ane honey harvest. S. S. WEATHERBY.

The plant, upon examination, proves to be one of our wild verbenas, known to the botanist under the name of Verbena Stricta. I have frequently heard bee-keepers speak of the verbenas as valuable for honey, and from this I suppose that they must be so, but still they certainly cannot be ranked with the best. C. E. BESSEY.

The Marshalltown Times says: "A warrant was lately sent to the sheriff of Polk County for the arrest of Mrs. Tupper, who had been indicted by the Scott County grand jury for forgery. It was sent back with the following return inscribed upon its back: 'Non inventus est lit outus to Dakotabus.'" Im

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Correspondence.

For the American Bee Journal.

Improvement of the Italian Bees.

My ideas about the improvement of the Italian bees differ so much from those expressed by Mr. Geo. Thompson, in the American Bee Journal for July, that I want to make some remarks about it.

He says, at first, that he has yet to learn that the bee-masters of Italy have paid much attention to the improvement of the Italian been.

Italian bee.

Italy is not so far behind our time in bee culture as Mr. Geo. Thompson seems to imagine. They have in Milan a bee journal imagne. They have in Mhan a bee journal—L'Apicottore—conducded with great talent and which has for contributors as good bee-keepers as can be found in this country. This journal was founded nine years ago by gentlemen devoted to bee culture, and by the devotion and learning of its contributors it is improving in every sense of the word. Of course with such a guide the im-provement of bees could not be left aside;

provement of bees could not be left aside; and I know personally many bee-keepers of Italy who choose always their best and most prolific queens to breed from.

Mr. Geo. Thompson adds: "There are dark, even black bees in Italy." Dark bees? Yes! Black bees? No! Last year, in order to help a too well-known lady, who had sent hybrid bees as imported, Rev. H. A. King said, at the Northwestern Bee-Keeper's Meeting, that there were hybrid bees in Italy. I have, in the American Bee Journal for March, 1875, dared him to prove his assertion, offering to pay \$200 if he would name an Italian bee-keeper havif he would name an Italian bee-keeper hav-ing hybrid bees in his apiary. Mr. King did not answer my offer. Now I extend this offer to those who think there are black bees in Italy. I have not, indeed, traveled in the whole Italian continent, but a well in the whole Italian continent, but a well known queen breeder, Mr. Mona, who inhabits Italian Switzerland, and would have been benefited by finding black or hybrid bees outside of his region, wrote in the French paper L'Apicutleur, that he had spent two months traveling in all parts of Italy, and that from the Alps to Brindist, he had found everywhere the genuine Italian bees, with such differences only as will be remarked between one family and another or between the bees of the same colony. If this statement is true, and there can be

If this statement is true, and there can be no doubt about that, the Italian bees are a fixed variety; the proof of it lies in the fact that this variety reproduces itself in all countries where it is introduced, foggy England as well as in this warm and sunny

country

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That the Italian bee can be improved in color I do not deny; but that the improve-ment in color be the first to be aimed at I cannot admit, for the matter of color can be

The first queen that I introduced from a ten years ago, in my apiary came from a ten years ago, in my apiary came from be breeder of this country, well known be breeder from Dzierzon. This The first queen that I introduced, about who had got his stock from Dzierzon. queen was very yellow, yellow from the corslet to the tip of the abdomen. She was introduced in one of my colonies about the middle of October and produced very yellow and handsome bees. Yes, more light in

color than the average of the workers of imported queens. In the following season I raised some 24 or 30 queens to stock with them my apiary, numbering then about that number. I could not hope to get queens purely fertilized for I was encircled by a great many black stocks. Imagine my astonishment when I saw many of my young queens producing workers with three yellow rings, yet some of these queens had mated when not a drone could be found in any pure colony; and I was sure there was mated when not a drone could be found in any pure colony; and I was sure there was not an Italian drone within fifteen miles from my apiary. It is true these seeming pure bees were not so well marked as those of my pure queen, but nine out of ten beekeepers would have pronounced them pure. This fact led me to search outside of the markings for a reliable test of purity, and after a few researches I concluded that the best test was the department of bees on the

best test was the deportment of bees on the combs when they are out of the hive. The following year I had the pleasure of raising a few pure queens, but among them was one producing unfertile eggs and one drone

a few pure queens, but among them was one producing unfertile eggs and one drone laying. I thought that these mishaps were the result of in-and-in breeding, and resolved to import bees direct from Italy.

Now how was it that my queens mating with black drones would produce all workers with three yellow rings? I think I am able to explain it. Dzierzon, by a careful selection of queens and drones, had produced a strain of bees very light in color, he even succeeded in producing workers with four wide, yellow rings. His bees were so yellow that the mating of his queens could not have the same effect on the progeny as if the color had not been so much improved; and a queen breeder, relying on the color only, could be led into error, so as to consider as pure or very nearly so a queen having half black blood in her veins. No doubt the daughter of an imported queen, which has not been subjected to such an improving, if mating with a black drone, will show the impurity of the mating and will never deceive her owner. The queens which have mated with pure drones, and these queens only, will seem pure, all the impure blood being visible in the progeny. The number of pure impregnated queens will be smaller, but there could be no mistake about the queens who are fit for reproducing or perfecting the race. are fit for reproducing or perfecting the race.

Now as the bees are not only kept for their color, but for their qualities as honey-gatherers, the first improvement to be secured is the activity of the workers and the best laying capacities of the queens. I do not concur with Mr. Geo. Thompson

I do not concur with Mr. Geo. Thompson when he says that a queen is always prolific enough if the conditions of the hives are right. I think that very few amongst the old bee-keepers will sustain this statement. I have often seen queens which could never fill their hives with brood, while some others in the same circumstance leaked recommendatives easen. Of course the last gave plenty of honey while the others could some years hardly get enough for winter. I, therefore, conclude that the main quality for a queen is prolificness, the second quality is energy and mildness of second quality is energy and mildness of her workers; and at last, color. For years I have been working with these aims in view and it would be hard to convince me that I am not on the right track. CH. DADANT.

P. S.-Mr. Geo. Thompson says also that

some queens were imported from this country to England. It is possible. In the British Bee Journal no one advertises home-bred queens, for the imported are the only ones relied on as pure by the English

bee-keepers.
Since I speak of the *British Bee Journal* I will ask Mr. Abbott why in England they call the Italian bees Ligurian bees?

For the American Bee Journal.

Two Things Proved by Experience.

I have recently made two observations in my bee yard which are worth while to be reported, proving conclusively two points, viz.: that bees transport larvæ from one comb to another, and that bees swarm with-

one frame of brood, three empty comes and four empty frames. The bees went in only reluctantly, which showed that the queen had not entered yet. My son, who assisted me, found her in an outside cluster, and capturing her by the wings we tried to introduce her by a hole in the honey board. The corks fitting too tight, I could in the hurry not move any. By trying to introduce her through an opening made by moving the honey board, she was caught and duce her through an opening made by moving the honey board, she was caught and squeezed between the honey board and top of hive. Although I could not perceive that she was crushed, yet she lay motionless in my hand. I could see only a faint moving of her legs. Thinking she might yet recover, I laid her carefully on top of a frame, closed the hive, drove in the balance of the swarm and moved it to its final place. I spread a bed sheet in front of the hive, knowing that the queen if dead would soon be thrown out. Next morning. July 2, she lay dead on the sheet. On opening the hive I found no queen cell commenced yet, which made me think that perhaps there had been two queens. Next morning, July 3, I found on the brood comb several commenced queen cells. I then saw that by an menced queen cells. I then saw that by an menced queen cells. I then saw that by an oversight one of the empty combs was a clear drone comb. It hung next to the brood comb. On lifting it out I saw it was full of commenced queen cells. On the side next to the brood comb I counted 37, on the other side 7 cells. As the brood comb was from a hybrid stock I looked for a pure Italian queen cell, which I soon found, two cells being close together. Inserting these into the brood comb, I destroyed the commenced cells and took the drone comb with the 44 cells into the house. On examinamenced cells and took the drone comb with the 44 cells into the house. On examina-tion I found 30 queen cells % filled with the white queen jelly, and imbedded in it a worm in each of them. This I think is a positive proof of the ability of bees to move grubs as can be thought of. The drone comb had been in the house since October, 1875, had been built in the side room, was full of honey and equation by the machine 1875, had been built in the side room, was full of honey and emptied by the machine, put back for a day to be cleaned by the bees and then put away until now. The bees had no queen, as I killed her, they made all the cells, filled them with queen jelly and transported 44 grubs from one comb to another in 24 hours. On July 5, a queen had emerged from one of the introduced cells, and the other was destroyed. The other observation was this:—June 24, I saw a little swarm on the wing which presently settled on a low branch of a tree. There were only perhaps a quart of bees. I perceived at once that they were none of my bees, as they were entirely black. Their behavior was very remarkable. Scarcely had they settled when they wildly dissolved had they settled when they wildly dissolved to alight again on the nearest hive, evidently trying in a wild manner to enter from all sides. They showed that they were hungry, awful hungry, so I dropped a little honey on top of the hive they beleaguered. You ought to have seen the eagerness with which they fell upon the honey. The idea struck me to experiment with this starving swarm. I dropped honey on another spot and watched closely for the queen. There was none. I then placed an empty hive near by, removed the honey board, and dropped a little honey on the bottom of the hive. In two minutes every bee of the swarm was collected on the bottom of that hive. Giving them a small brood comb, swarm was collected on the bottom of that hive. Giving them a small brood comb, with a closed queen cell and an empty comb, I put in a partition board, closed the hive, and lo, the bees have remained. They have now a fertilized, beautiful yellow queen, and I expect to make it before fall a good swarm full of young bees, by feeding and introducing brood combs.

Sigel, Ill., July 6, 1876. Chas. Sonne.

For the American Bee Journal

Southern Kentucky Bee-Keeper's Association.

The following is a condensed report of the proceedings of the Southern Kentucky Bee-Kecpers' Convention, which met at Smith's Grove, Kentucky, June 1:

The convention was called to order and opened with prayer by the President, Dr. N. P. Allen. Calling of roll dispensed with. The minutes of the last meeting read and approved.

read and approved.

The Secretary, H. W. Sanders, announced to the convention the death of one of its members, R. W. Stithe, of Hardin County, Kentucky. Whereupon the President appointed the following committee to draft converging to resolutions on the death of appropriate resolutions on the death of Brother Stithe: H. W. Sanders, N. H. Hol-man, W. E. G. Allen.

The following committees were then ap-

On Apiarian Supplies on Exhibition—L. P. Smith, W. W. Wright, C. N. Allen. On State of Bee Culture—R. A. Alexander, I. N. Greer, Dr. S. T. Botts.

On motion, Convention adjourned till one

clock, P. M. Dinner on the ground. The convention met at 1 o'clock i Calling the roll was dispensed with. The journal of the morning session read and ap-

The following reports were made: We, your committee, appointed to draft resolutions of respect to the memory of our worthy brother, R. W. Stithe, of Hardin county, would beg leave to submit the following:

WHEREAS, It has been the will of our Heavenly Father to remove from our midst our beloved brother R. W. Stithe, of Grand View, Hardin county, Kentucky; Resolved, That in the death of Brother Stithe, we have lost a true and worthy

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Exh bitio Ill., box dati F. M kniv and ton, Glas beeing Mr. wer quee for

mat opin pose we c artic frate

M circ dron M were brother, a humble Christian, and a good citizen.

Resolved, That we tender our sympathies to the family of the deceased, and would en-treat all to be ready for the messenger, for we know not how soon we may be called to that bourne from whence no

traveler has ever yet returned.

Resolved, That these resolutions be spread upon the records of this society, and

a copy sent to the family of the deceased.

H. W. SANDERS,
N. H. HOLMAN,
W. E. G. ALLEN, Com.

A communication from Chas. F. Muth, of Cincinnati, O., was then read by the Presi-dent. On motion, the thanks of this society were tendered Mr. Muth for his valuable

communication.

The Assistant Secretary received a communication from Charles Dadant, of Hamilton, Ills., on Artificial Swarming; the thanks of the society were tendered Mr. Dadant, and the Secretary ordered to have the article rubble secretary.

the article published.

The Committee on the State of Bee Cul-

ture made the following report:

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Bee culture is in a prosperous condition in a number of counties in Southern Ken-tucky. Since the organization of this society many of our best citizens have turned their attention to bee-keeping, and have transferred their bees from the old log and box hive to the movable frame hive. Many box hive to the movable frame hive. Many of them are reading the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL and text books, and standard works on bee-keeping, and are thereby getting knowledge that will enable them to make bee-keeping a success. The Italian bee is being introduced into a number of apiaries, and, with the rich honey harvest now on hand, we see no reason why our land should not actually flow with honey.

R. A. ALEXANDER,
I. N. GREER,
DE. S. T. BOOTS.

The Committee on Apiarian Supplies on Exhibition made the following report:
We would report that there are on exhibition, from Thos. G. Newman, of Chicago, Ill., bee veils, honey knives, glass honey boxes, rubber gloves, artificial comb foundation, and German bee sting cure; from C.

boxes, rubber gloves, artificial comb foundation, and German bee sting cure; from C. F. Muth, Cincinnati, O., bee-hives, honey knives, honey jars, bee veils, queen cages, and straw mats; from R. R. Murphy, Fulton, Ill., honey machine; Mr. Hamilton, of Glasgow, Ky., has on exhibition a patent bee-hive. We take pleasure in recommending to bee-keepers the hives exhibited by Mr. Muth—they are Langstroth hives; we were pleased with his honey knives and queen cages; the glass jars are very nice for marketing extracted honey; tile straw mats for winter covering, we are of the opinion, would answer an excellent purpose. The honey machine of R. R. Murphy we can recommend as an excellent machine. we can recommend as an excellent machine. We cannot say as to the value of the other We cannot say as to the value of the other articles on exhibition, but would recommend a trial of them by our bee-keeping fraternity.

Respectfully submitted,
C. N. ALLEN,
L. P. SMITHE,
W. W. WRIGHT.

Mr. Shelton wished to know under what circumstances bees would build the most drope comb

drone comb.

Mr. Wright had noticed weak swarms were not inclined to build drone comb.

Mr. Alexander said queenless stocks built

the most drone comb.

The President said queenless stocks built drone comb almost exclusively, and that stocks with old queens were inclined to build more drone comb than where they had

a young queen.

Mr. Shelton said he had noticed his bees build more drone and crooked combs late in the season.

The President said, late in the season, when the sun was hot, the combs in buildings became warped by the heat, and recommended shade for hives.

The Shelten seight how army to comb could

Mr. Shelton asked how empty comb could be kept from the moth-worm.

Mr. Wright would put in a tight box and

put in an upper room.

Mr. Alexander said he had but little ex-

perience in keeping empty combs.

The President said the best place to keep empty comb from the moth was in a box or room so tight as to exclude the moth-fly; that he never removed the surplus comb

until winter, and returned them as soon as his bees were strong enough to protect

them in spring.

Artificial swarming vs. natural swarming was then taken up, and, after some discussion, it was agreed that artificial swarming was the surest and safest way of increasing

Mr. Hamilton gave a little of his experience in trying to capture absconding swarms, and said he was in favor of artifi-

cial swarming.

Mr. Shelton—I would like to hear from some one on buckwheat for bees.

Mr. Alexander said he had but little ex-perience with buckwheat as a honey plant, but he was traveling once, and he got buck-wheat cakes and honey, and he knew they were very fine.

President—on buckwheat—said if sown on rich ground, and the weather was favorable, would produce honey, but on poor

mr. Wright said, when he was a boy, they raised buckwheat for bees, and they worked on it. Did not know what they gathered from it.

from it.

Mr. Shelton said he will differ with the President on buckwheat on poor land. He said he bought a poor piece of land and put it in buckwheat, and thought it paid well to raise buckwheat for family use.

The President said he hardly ever made as much as he sowed. He thought, perhaps, he sowed too early. He thought to make two or three sowings one might have better luck.

luck.

On motion the President appointed I. N. Greer, of Barren county, on committee ap-pointed at the last meeting of this society, to collect honey-producing plants of doubt-ful name, and forward to a botanist for true

A long discussion on the best honey plants was engaged in by various members, and it was agreed that all bee raisers should furnish pasture for their bees, as well as other stock; that they ought to sow buck-wheat, catnip, white clover, and plant around their farms the various honey-producing trees, such as sugar maple, poplar, and sumach.

and sumacn.

On motion the Convention adjourned to meet at this place on the 3d Wednesday in October next, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

H. W. SANDERS, Sec.

To Remove Glue from the Hands.

In answer to Mr. Mason's inquiry for something "That will remove glue from the hands," I will suggest that Rock Soap will fill the bill exactly. As he and the rest of your readers are very likely unacquainted with the article and may suppose it to be some artificial compound, it may be well for me to suggest that the article was discovered in the side of a mountain by Mr. A. F. Hubbard, about 7 miles west of Ventura, California. The strata is about 20 feet thick and inexhaustible. They have commenced quarrying it and packing out of the mountains on the backs of little donkeys. The crude material is then hauled to Ventura, crushed in a quartz mill, dried, ground fine like flour between French burs, bolted, dampened, and pressed into cakes of convenient size for toilet use.

This soap possesses some remarkable

This soap possesses some remarkable properties. So far as I can see, it washes just as well in hard water as in soft. I no longer take the trouble to replenish my pitcher from my cistern, the well being a little more convenient. Those who have tried it say that it does evenly well in see little more convenient. Those who have tried it say that it does equally well in sea water or fresh. The discoverers send samples to all those who send 15 cents to pay return postage on the cakes. Common soap cleanses by means of its caustic properties and is injurious to the fiber, while, so far as we know or can judge, this rock soap cleanses by means of its powerful absorbing properties and is not injurious to the surface.

O. L. Abbott.

Santa Barbara Cal. June 9 3876

Santa Barbara, Cal., June 9, 2876.

For the American Bee Journal.

Ripe Honey.

Not being scientific and having only four years' experience, I do not desire to get into a controversy but only desire to throw some yeast into the subject, hoping thereby to induce some abler apiarists to ventilate it more thoroughly. It is certainly of the greatest importance to all of us to bring into market only the most natural and "Simon pure" article, which not only is honey but also tastes like honey.

Some hold that it is enough done, if uncapped honey, after being thrown out, is put into open barrels and allowed to evaporate until all free water has left. Others believe in slinging out the honey only after Not being scientific and having only four

believe in slinging out the honey only after all honey cells have been capped over by the bees. Who are right?

It is by many concluded, I think, that the older bees gather the nectar from the flowers or the so-called honey dew from the nowers or the so-called noney dew from the leaves, and coming home empty the same hurriedly into some cell, while it is one of the offices of the younger bees to suck it up from these cells, partly digest it, and after the nectar by the process has lost much water and is also changed into real honey to deposit it in the comb where it is to be comped over after all free water has accounted. capped over after all free water has evaporated. The cells are generally not over it capped over after all free water has evaporated. The cells are generally not over ½ inch deep, and while the bees always keep up a lively circulation of the warm air in the hive it cannot be doubted that the honey in cells will soon be rid of all free water, when it is fit to be capped over. The bees knowing exactly what they do, begin to cap as soon as the honey does not evap-orate any more.* I always find the honey in combs which have partly been capped, of general thickness.

I cannot see how thin honey put into open barrels can ever well evaporate. If 2 feet deep, it is 48 times deeper than a cell. If it deep, it is 48 times deeper than a cell. If it takes 3 days in a cell to evaporate, it must take 144 days in a barrel of two feet deep. It is only the surface which evaporates. Of course the evaporated honey surface becoming heavier will sink, giving room for a new layer of thin honey to evaporate. There will certainly be an end to the process, but I would not dare to wait for it Expose a barrel of clean water to evaporation and see how long it will take to be empty. How much longer may it take to evaporate the free water from a barrel of evaporate the free water from a barrel of thin honey?

thin honey?

I have another objection to slinging combs which have no capping on them. Such combs may as well as not be the first receptacle of the honey as brought in by the older bees, which, as far as my experiments go, is very often quite distasteful, not being like honey at all. To wait before slinging the comb until all cells are capped over is, I think, unnecessary, increased labor and unavoidable injury to the cells by the knife being the only gain. I sling my combs if only 3 or 4 rows of cells are capped over. Sigel, Ill.

Chas. Sonne. Sigel, Ill. CHAS. SONNE.

*[Is it certain that honey sealed over cannot be further evaporated?—ED.]

> For the American Bee Journal, Pro and Con.

DEAR EDITOR: - Having never wearied your patience, pro. or con., with this or that theory, or whether bees can or can't hear, or "dysentery versus foul-brood," or the many topics so fluently discussed by able and worthy writers, whose communications grace the pages of the faithful friend of apiculture, The American Bee Journal, my subject shall be principally—for or against

On page 176, July issue, is a notice of Alfred Chapman's ideas of queen rearing in larvæ as food. He is correct, without the shadow of a doubt.

Can bees hear? Now, that is too transparent to take any one's time to write upon, especially Mr. Argus, who is talented and can word his communication so correct-

ly.

I am an old man and on account of being crippled in my left hand by a burn in infancy, was and am unqualified for any labor that requires two hands, and in order to do duty or labor of some kind I was required to watch hees from a period of my earliest to watch hees from a period of my earliest to watch bees from a period of my earliest recollections, and I have discovered and satisfied myself at least, of very many important points and features necessary to the correct and profitched myself at least, or very many important points and features necessary to the correct and profitable management and treatment of bees. Yet, I have failed in being able to find a deaf bee, and would just as soon say that all bees were deaf, dumb, blind, had no sense of taste or feeling and couldn't sting, as to assert that they could not here. not hear.

"When Sorghum came my bees went," is a cry from across in Kentucky. Perhaps it's so, I will not dispute, but it is not my experience. I would suggest that bee-men

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examine their hives immediately, and cut out all the cherry and peach-blossom honey that remain in the hives, and tell me in the that remain in the hives, and tell me in the spring how many colonies you have lost on account of dysentery. You will readily recognize said cherry honey by its cherry color and taste, the appearance of fine bubbles in the honey cells, its resistance to or bursting the sealing; and instead of your bees dying of dysentery they are hermetically sealed up in constipation (everyone is aware that cherry and peach pit meat is poisonous and of a costive nature). The nectar of flowers remaining in the fruit is the germ of the coming fruit seed and if the nectar of nowers remaining in the fruit is the germ of the coming fruit seed and if the seed is poisonous the honey is of a similar nature. The above is the best preventive of the early spring bee disease that I know of. The next best (for those that have not already gorged themselves with the said honey) is to give them for food some warm honey) is to give them for food some warm water sweetened with N. O. molasses or something of a gentle purgative nature. When you see your bees take a flight and void freely and return to the hive, have some sweetened water, sweetened with any of the refined grades of sugar, ready for them in the hive, warmed to blood heat before placing in the hive that they may partake heartily of it, as honey in the hive becomes too rich for them, and the weather is usually too chilly for the bees to seek water in the winter or spring flights. Where bees yoid freely and return to the hive, in water in the winter or spring linglists, where bees void freely and return to the hive, in this way of treatment they are safe. But after voiding on a chilly day the warmth leaves the body almost the instant that they empty themselves, and often chill and are not able to return.

Bee Smith. not able to return. Tecumseh, Mich.

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Does not the same fatality attend bees where they have not access to peach and cherry blossom?-ED.]

> For the American Bee Journal. Introducing Queens.

There are various methods of introducing queens, all of which can be practised, no doubt, with a considerable degree of success. One way is this: after taking the queen from the colony to which you intend to introduce the Italian queen, drop her into honey and daub her all over with it, then put her into the property into the colors. put her into the hive among the bees and by the time they clean the honey off her they will accept her; but I never dared to risk introducing a valuable queen in that way, and cannot recommend it. Another method is to put the queen and two or three workers in a wire cage about one inch square and four inches long; cut a piece of honey as large as the inside of the cage, then cut the cells off from one side and wire then cut the cells off from one side and put it in the cage next to the bees, with the cells up, then put in the wooden stopper and draw a piece of wire through the top end of the cage and separate the combs near the centre of the hive far enough to let the cage centre of the hive far enough to let the cage down between them, and when you get the cage where you want it, bend the wire over the top of one of the frames and let it remain there 48 hours, then daub some honey on her and release her to the colony. I used to practice this method with universal success, but last year it was entirely unreliable. I then caged them the same way and left them the same length of time and instead of releasing her I would unstop the cage and take out the piece of honey and having ready a piece of soft comb honey from their own hive, stop the cage with that, putting it in with the cells crosswise; then take a knife and scar the combs enough to set the honey to dripping in several places and close the hive. The workers will immediately turn their attention to taking eare of the dripping honey and repairing the combs, and will gnaw the stopper out of the cage and the queen will pass out unnoticed and will soon be depositing eggs unmolested. When released in this way I do not look for her for a number of days, and have not lost a queen in this way.

It must be remembered that old black comb will not do to stop the cage with as the bees are liable to not gnaw it out. There is of course some risk in introducing in this way, but to introduce a valuable queen with perfect safety and without running any way, but on introduce a variable queen whin perfect safety and without running any risk, I go to two or more hives and take a comb from each of ripe and hatching brood and shake it to get off all or nearly all the old workers, and place them together in an empty hive, and all being in a strange place and strange to each other and all or nearly all young workers they will not quarrel. Then place the queen on the combs, not caged, and she will go to laying unmolested, and the workers will pay the same respect to her as they would to their own queen. In introducing in this way the queen can be seen very often for the first hour or two, and if anything should go wrong it can be arrested before she is likely to be stung and all the old workers picked wrong it can be arrested before she is likely to be stung and all the old workers picked from the combs and allowed to return to their own home. A very few workers are sufficient to introduce a queen to, if they are hatching pretty fast from one or more combs. If the nights are cool it will be necessary to take them in the house at night, until they get strong enough to protect themselves against the cold. If there is danger of being robbed it will be necessary to put them in the house or cellar until some of them are old enough to guard til some of them are old enough to guard the hive, then set them out and contract the entrance. Add combs of hatching brood from other hives and they will soon be a strong colony. With this mode of introducstrong colony. With this mode of introducing we not only introduce with perfect safety, but we add one colony to our number instead of simply superseding another queen; thus we have all our queens laying which is of vast importance since bees and combs are capital with a bee-keeper.

Virgin queens can usually be introduced if taken as soon as hatched and put where you want them, uncaged. S.K. MARSH.

[The only way we know of to introduce a queen with perfect safety under all circumstances, is to have no bees whatever in the hive when she is introduced. Have frames of comb containing all sealed brood with bees just hatching out, and put inio a hive with not a single worker; put the queen in, shut up the hive bee-tight in every spot and place over a strong colony with wire cloth between so that no bees may pass from below, but the heat may. Then, in 4 or 5 days set the hive where you want it and open the entrance.-ED.]

Distance of Combs from Centre to Centre.

In the June JOURNAL, S. K. Marsh "won-ders how a bee-keeper could be so exact as ders now a bee-keeper could be so exact as to adjust the combs to the exact 1-16th of an inch every time they were taken out and replaced, or put into another hive without using a rule to measure every time." It seems there are still a great many "beemen" who fail to get the full advantage of the reveals come, and Pre. Moreh. the movable comb system, and Bro. Marsh may be one of them. If he leaves the adjustment of his frames to guess work he certainly is. Not one "movable comb hive" in ten that I have ever seen is really movable in a practical sense. Most of them are ways to crowth when new, but offer they in ten that I have ever seen is reany morable in a practical sense. Most of them are movable enough when new; but after they are full of bees and the bees have been in them a year or two they are more properly pullable and prizable hives. To be a movable comb hive worthy of the name, the frames must be held both at top and bottom, the proper distance apart—for there is a proper distance notwithstanding that bees will "adjust themselves to the circumstances" of an illy arranged household. The frames must be so that they can be lifted out at the top of the hives without pressing or jarring or disturbing the bees in the least—so arranged that they cannot be glued fast. The combs must be so straight that one will fit anywhere in any hive in the apiary without crowding or leaving too much space between them. If bee-keepers would have their hives thus leaving too much space between them. If bee-keepers would have their hives thus perfect they would save themselves and their bees much work and annoyance and their bees much work and annoyance and find the care of an apiary much more pleasant than it generally is. It may be nothing new, but let me tell Bro. Marsh how to make such a hive. He may make the body of his hive any size or shape he chooses—can reconstruct the ones he has if he wishes. The top bar of his frames must be bevel edged on the under side the entire length including projections. A piece of bevel edged on the under side the entire length including projections. A piece of board % inch square cut through from corner to corner makes two bars. The top end of the perpendicular stiles must be cut V shaped to receive the beveled bar, and said bar is nailed to the stiles with two long, slender finishing nails without much taper to them. The nails should be driven in at different angles to hold the better. The bottom bar is %x% in and is nailed on to the lower end of the stiles with the same kind of nails, one at either end. The lower end of the stiles must be chamfered off taperingly to the bottom bar so the frame may slip gently down between wire staples may slip gently down between wire staples that are to hold the frames the right dis-tances apart near the bottom. If they are thus tapered off at the lower end and the thus tapered off at the lower end and the staples give just the proper amount of play, ½ inch, there never will be any trouble in "jogging" in letting the frames down. The top bar, beveled edged on the under side, must rest on hoop iron in saw-tooth notches cut exactly 1½ inches apart. The frames will then hang, as it were, stationary, made so mostly by their own weight, just 1½ inches from centre to centre, and when that distance apart the bees will always begin their combs on that beveled edge. If the frames are further apart than that or nearer frames are further apart than that or nearer together they will not begin the combs there every time. Now bear in mind there

are no clap traps nor inconvenient and cumbersome triggery about all this, simply an inch hoop iron with saw-tooth notches cut 1½ inches apart and a frame made bevel edged all the entire length on the under side; these staples say ¾ of the way from the top down giving ¾ inch play, with lower end of the frames' stiles trimmed off, so as to enter without difficulty. Every beeman knows the necessity of having every frame and comb so that it will fit every way and everywhere in every hive, and in this way this great convenience can be obtained.

J. W. Greene.

Chillicothe, Mo.

[We insist always that every frame shall be movable and go in any place in any hive, but we confess that we have not yet been able to have all combs built exactly alike. As they now are, we are obliged to vary somewhat the distance of top bars.—Ed.]

For the American Bee Journal. Some of My Experience.

Bees are doing splendidly here this spring, have several stocks that I estimate have put up 80 lbs. of white, box honey to date; have taken off some finished. My bees were wintered and springed in packing boxes on summer stand, and were strong early; many of them commencing in boxes on apple-tree bloom. Have had but 8 to attempt swarming out of 35, thus far. Have tried some of John Long's white foundation, in the brood chamber. I judged it was mostly paraffine, and so was unfit for box honey, and I find it was also useless for the brood; as queens refuse to brood in it, the bees draw out the cells quickly and put honey into it after a while; but I have tried 10 or 15 queens and found only one that would lay in it at all, and I could not get her to brood it more than half of what she would the natural comb. I estimate that the pound of foundation that I used has done at least \$10 damage to me.

get her to brood it more than half of what she would the natural comb. I estimate that the pound of foundation that I used has done at least \$10 damage to me. Have also tried the plaster cast foundation, by filling small frames about 5x6 in. full of the foundation. I put in three stocks a box of ten small frames each, filled with plaster cast foundation (Mr. Cheshire's plan) ten days ago, and there isn't a particle of honey in it yet; the bees have built and filled combs on each side of these boxes, since they were put on, starting on a piece of drone comb \$2\forall in. long and as wide as your finger, although these boxes of foundation occupied the position on the hive that the bees generally work in most freely. And now, as far as I have tried it, I consider this whole artificial foundation comb business an unmitigated humbug, and I have tried it all that I care to. I would like to have you put this conclusion in the Journal, over my signature. J. P. Moore.

Binghampton, N. Y., June 28, 1876.

[If we could have 80 pounds of honey stored by June 28, on each of several colonies, we don't believe we should care much to fuss with foundation. Will Mr. Moore kindly tell us what means, if any, he uses to have so little swarming in such strong stocks?—Ed.]

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Comb Foundation.

Last winter I received samples of white and yellow comb foundations from John Long, said to be pure wax. Upon testing them by various ways I found but a small part to be wax, and in consequence did not order any more to experiment with. Last spring I received a sample pound of yellow comb foundation of C. O. Perrine, which appears to be pure beeswax. Have used it all in the hives this season, and the bees accept it all right, both in brood chamber and in surplus boxes. In the latter, the comb when finished with new wax and capped, looked as nice as any other, but when cut into disclosed a yellow streak in the middle and a very tough septum. It was not trimmed down as thin as the natural comb. This may partly be owing to the thickness of the yellow foundation. A sample of Perrine's foundation was put into a surplus frame along side of a sample of Long's. The bees worked on Perrine's and built new comb until they were scant of room, and then took hold of Long's sample and finished the cells on it. So it seems that they will work on paraffine though they do not prefer it. When large pieces of the foundation are put into frames they are warped by the heat of the hive, and the comb thereby made more or less crooked or waving. There seems to be no remedy for this, and I found my fancy to have a complete comb built on foundation "as straight as a board," would have to remain ungratified.

[Try filling a frame within a quarter of an inch of the two sides and bottom.—ED.]

I made a pair of plaster dies, 5x6 inches, in order to experiment with pure wax foundation; succeeded in pressing about twenty sheets before the dies broke. They were all used in surplus receptacles with the following results. Very thin sheets of light yellow wax, melted up from caps and white scraps from honey boards etc., when built upon and sealed over looked as white and nice as the natural comb; when cut into disclosed a shade of yellow in centre of comb, and a thickness of the septum, so little different from the natural comb that no one but an expert would notice the difference. The thicker the sheet of wax pressed into foundation, the thicker the septum remained after the comb was finished. If the wax is ordinarily dark, the appearance of the comb when cut is much like that of comb, that one brood of bees had been hatched in, and would no doubt prove unattractive to consumers. Small sheets can be rapidly pressed with a simple lever, and dies, say 8 or 10 inches square, can be cheaply furnished no doubt by the electrotypers.

Now, if the patentees would sell individual rights to make and use comb foundation at warsandels arise; it would probable mice, it would probable mice, it would probable mice it would probable mice it would probable mice.

Now, if the patentees would sell individual rights to make and use comb foundation, at a reasonable price, it would probably come into very general use; but I confess the present price of the article deters me from making any large investment in it.

from making any large investment in it.

The simplest test for adulteration of beeswax is to put a small piece on a hot stove. Pure wax foams over nearly the whole surface of the melted wax. If mixed with paraffine or other substance only a part of the spot will be covered with foam. By a little practice any one can thus readily determine very nearly the amount of adulteration.

Maysville, Ky. WM. C. PELHAM.

For the American Bee Journal.

Ripen your Honey.

While this question is being discussed in the BEE JOURNAL I wish to say a word, and to commence I will refer the readers to friend Muth's article on page 187, June number, present Volume. His experience and mine is the same in extracting and ripening. Let us put good pure honey on the market. Let it stand in barrels and tubs with open ends for some days after extracting, and the thin watery stuff and all impurities will rise to the top. Persons that have not had experience of the kind will be surprised at the amount of impurities they can skim off. We stand ours in the cellar and skim it three or four times at intermission, and then barrel up tight. This thing of running into the barrel direct from the extractor we never did, and after straining it into open ended barrels, etc., and then letting it stand and skimming it, we were convinced it was not the plan to barrel it without going through some days of a process of ripening, etc.

ripening, etc.

I have managed to make a home market for all the surplus honey I have to spare, so far, by going off into our neighboring towns and villages, a short distance away from home, and have sold at satisfying rates, rather than to ship east to the large honey houses. If our bee-keepers would be crafty trading fellows, they could generally sell much honey near home.

E. LISTON.

For the American Bee Journal.

"In Medio Tutissimus Ibis."

I have selected the above motto as applicable, in my view, to most of the more important discussions of the day.

The honey extractor is lauded to the skies

The honey extractor is lauded to the skies by some and by others condemned as a nuisance. Now the honey extractor, as I consider it, is one of the greatest inventions, probably next to the movable frame—the greatest of the age. And yet it is liable to abuse and should be used with discretion, always keeping in view the object at which you are aiming and never sacrificing the strength of a colony for present gain.

always keeping in view the object at which you are aiming and never sacrificing the strength of a colony for present gain.

Spreading the frames of brood and introducing empty comb is another item upon which people widely differ. Some condemn it in toto, others carry it too far. While one or two empty worker combs, never extending the brood beyond the ability of the workers to cover and take care of, is a stimulus to the queen and a valuable aid to timely increase, going beyond that is attended with mischief, enfeebling the colony and discouraging the queen; and this with too free use of the extractor is doubtless the great cause of the frequent desertions of queens so often complained of. The Italian queen, especially the half breed, is a spirited thing and you take away her resources, or cripple her energies by overtaxing her efforts and she rebels, often leaving honey, brood and even workers, though sometimes she takes the latter with her and seeks new quarters. Under such circumstances a little timely aid by giving a frame of brood in all stages is a good remedy, and a valuable precaution to take with all swarms both natural and artificial, especially when the queen is probably unfertilized.

Winter Shelter for Bees.

ED. JOURNAL:—Although I have bought six different works of you on "the management of bees," and have read them all, ment of bees," and have read them all, thoroughly, and have been taking and reading the Journal, yet I have never kept any bees. The bee business seems to be quite an uncertain business, judging from the reports made through your Journal, but I think it is mostly made so from mismanagement of those engaged in it, especially in the wintering of the little "bugs."

Now I have an inquiry to make of your

ally in the wintering of the little "bugs."

Now, I have an inquiry to make of you and the readers of the JOURNAL, which if you think worth it, you will please insert. Will it not pay to make about as much of an outlay for sheltering and housing a swarm or colony of bees, as it would for sheltering and housing a cow? Is not the net profit on a colony of bees about as much as it is on a cow? If so, why not make as much of an outlay and thereby save the bees?

What consistency would there be in raising a calf to a cow and then keeping it in the winter in a condition that would cause it to die from the effects of cold?

Why would not a box quilt, 4 or 5 inches thick, placed over the hive, with proper arrangements for ventilation, and over the whole place a sheet-iron hive or case, well painted, and let the colony stand on the summer stand, be as good an outlay for wintering as could be desired? The sheetiron case would keep all dry within, and could conveniently be taken off any time when it becomes necessary to examine the bees.

O. J. VINCENT, M. D. Noble Co., Ind., June 29, 1876.

We have read over again for the third time the statement that so many works on bees have been read by a man who has never kept any bees. We are sure the Doctor's interest would be highly increased if he should have one or more colonies to manipulate, and he could then test for himself the plan he proposes. We are not sure about his plan, but are open to suggestions on the whole subject of wintering. We think the question is yet an open one with the majority of bee-keepers .- ED.

For the American Bee Journal.

Extracted vs. Comb Honey.

Yes, friend Heddon, I hear the noise; but you forget that you acknowledged to me only last season that you would contract your extracted for 10 cents, to be taken at your door, pay for packages, etc. Be careful and remember you live near Kalamazoo, and there is an asylum there. The farmer ful and remember you live near Kalamazoo, and there is an asylum there. The farmer pays \$2.50 per day for harvest help and sells his wheat for one dollar per bushel. There is a false price put on everything in the mercantile line in these days; and it costs us almost one cent per pound to produce extracted honey, and I can produce ten pounds of extracted to your one of comb honey. Dare you try me? If so, make your offer and I am your man. Yours in swarming time. ing time, Carson City, Mich., July 5, 1876. HIRAM ROOP.

For the American Bee Journal. Comb-Building.

Comb-Building.

Editor Bee Jorral:—I cannot forbear giving you for print what it pleased me so much to see. I have long felt much curiosity to see just how the bees build comb, and for the purpose of watching them, have a small glass hive. Last Sabbath, taking a newspaper and my footstool, (not wicked, was it?) I went to sit with the bees awhile. I had left the comb rather near one of the glass sides and they had commenced building comb on the glass, thus working with the underside of the body toward me. One bee first attracted my attention by some queer contortions of the body, and a tumble backward among a cluster of some half dozen just below where the new comb was being started; when he again found his feet he had a wax scale between his mandibles. Now, I thought, perhaps here is an opportunity of seeing what I have thought so much about. The scale was held upright between the mandibles and lapped against the inside of the cell on which the bee was working. The scale was not left whole, but after being fastened at the lower side, a part was broken from the top and carried to the other side of the cell. When this had been disposed of, he commenced rubbing the side of his body with the hind leg, at the same time curving the body toward the side rubbed as if to loosen the scale. One could not help laughing to see the quick, funny way in which this little fellow carried the scale from body to mouth. I suppose the hairs or bristles near the pollen basket, or perhaps the little. this fittle fellow carried the scale from body to mouth. I suppose the hairs or bristles near the pollen basket, or perhaps the little claw-like appendages are stiff enough to catch into the scale thus holding it until placed in the mandibles. I have often questioned how the scale was taken from the body, supposing it was done by other bees, and to see this gave me much pleasure.

body, supposing it was done by other bees, and to see this gave me much pleasure.

All bee-keepers must have noticed the way in which bees hang clustered, almost motionless, when building comb. Now, are the scales passed upward from one to the other to those building at the top, or do the bees change place, each taking care of the scales produced on his own body?

Mediua Ohio.

Medina, Ohio.

[Here is a very interesting question and we hope "M." will continue her investigations in the same direction. We had always supposed (though this was from reading and not from observation) that bees were neighborly in this wax business, the bee secreting the wax allowing others to help themselves, but "M's" observations point to a different conclusion. Another question in this connection: Why is it that so many scales are wasted and found lying on the bottom board, or thrown out of the entrance when bees are busy building comb? If the bees took these scales from one another why should they not pick them up from the bottom board? But if each one uses the scales directly from its own body then we should not so much expect them to pick up those that are dropped. We shall be glad to hear further from "M."-ED.]

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Thoughts on Reading the July No.

FRIEND NEWMAN:—The July number is received and contents devoured. A few questions are asked and other matters re-

quire an answer.

On page 179, "Can bees hear?" two questions will answer it satisfactorily I believe. When bees issue forth as a swarm, they are When bees issue form as a swam, they are induced to do so by the piping (so called) of the queen which the bees hear (not feel) and go forth; and after they are out do not they follow the queen by a peculiar noise produced by her flight? How soon they return if she can't be found; they cannot follow by scent, feeling or sight and must of course by sound.

We think bees hear, but we don't here see the proof. Do queens always pipe before the issue of first swarms? Is it proven that bees cannot feel the piping? It is a common thing for our bees if they swarm out without the queen to settle and remain clustered for some time as quietly as if the queen was with them, but in a couple of hours or sooner they learn the absence of the queen and return to the hive .- ED.]

On page 181, "Bee-Keeping No. 2" goes for the N. E. Bee-Keepers' Society with what he deems a cut, but he has hashed his own judgment for the worst. The report of their meeting shows that it was a good one, and I would be glad to read a few more such reports. But I must notice No. 2. "Now, this talk about controlling swarms is all a humbug." Their answer was plain and too pointed, but they all knew that the questoo pointed, but they all knew that the question had so often been answered that it foolishness to a great majority of that Socie-

nonismness to a great majority of that society to again discuss it, and then gave that reply to pass the question; had it been interesting, more would have been said.

No. 2 seems to think that the way to control swarming is to increase. Now, the swarming fever is three times as strong here as in the North, and if left alone they will swarm to death. We have not allowed a swarm since May 1st and have had over 50 swarm to death. We have not allowed a swarm since May 1st, and have had over 50 to try their best at it, but we have control-

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led and with entire success.

On the second question he wants more light than just "Yes." Well, early in the spring, often times there is so much honey gathered that the queen is cramped for room, cannot use the extractor on account of the atmosphere and brood, and in consequence a lack of brood. No. 2 condemns the answer to question 13, for he failed once, but who could call it wisdom to undertake to introduce a young queen when the bees had a queen cell concealed. They answered it very well, yet I prefer to open the hive as soon as the first swarm issues, and cut out all the queen cells except one, the finest looking one, then the bees cannot possibly have a chance to swarm for twenty days after she hatches; as they will have nothing to raise it from; if they should have eggs they will not build another while they

have one good cell.

On page 185, there is more "House Apiary again." Well, we have a house here the size of Louisiana, that I guarantee to winter safely in. It has plenty of room to five in when they are restricted. fly in, when they wish; can gather enough in November for November's consumption,

and get honey again in February and March and ready to swarm in April.

On page 188, G. H. Mobley has advanced some ideas of 1846 instead of centennial '76.

"Bees will clean out extracted combs and bees will clean out extracted combs and put it all in one combs—the honey. I have been often surprised on opening the hive the next day after extracting to find one comb almost full of honey and the others—extracted ones—dry and plenty of eggs." Let us know when you cut out a lot and we will give a good price for clean combs. We had several hundred built this summer, and Lam sure they cost us 18 lbs of honey for I am sure they cost us 16 lbs. of honey for every pound of comb built, and then there is the time consumed in building them. Now please own up, or give us the secret.

[Does not Six misunderstand Mr. Mobley?-ED.]

On page 193, Mr. J. B. Rapp gives us the proof for a queen meeting two drones. Does not the queen return with the male organ of the drone adhering to her? Has she capa-city for two drones? Let us know, as I have seen them return more than once and they were satisfied to return after meeting

To clean combs from moths, mould, bee-bread, etc. Soak them in soft water for one day and put them in the extractor and throw out the water and filth, and set them in the

shade to dry.

To disinfect combs use carbolic acid two drachms to the gallon of soft water, remain in for one day, then wash in clean water used as for mouldy comb. Please allow us to state to the readers of

THE AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL the quality of the imported queens received from Messrs. Dadant & Son. I sent for one in the winter but could not get it on account of the cold. She came May 19, I think. Mr. Lindsly was 13 days before he could induce the bees to take her. Then she received an accident, a frame hit her on the back between the second and third bands and the damage is quite visible yet. She was just the color we ordered—orange—and very stately in her motions. She is the best layer I ever saw, will fill a sheet of comb 9x17 every 24 hours. It does not stop her from laying to hold the comb out in the sun. Several have seen her laying or depositing THE AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL the quality Several have seen her laying or depositing her eggs; she stops only for want of room. Her queens are uniform in color and size. Pointe Coupee, La., July 8, 1876.

For the American Bee Journal.

Dadant on the Purity of Queens.

See page 169, first column, June No., present Vol., in answer to J. W. McNeil. Now, friend D., I take you as one of our leading men, and am generally much interested in reading your contributions to THE BEE JOURNAL. On the question and answer here cited I will ask for more explanation, and I want other breeders of Italian bees to and I want other breeders of Italian bees to let us know their experience in the matter referred to above. I have had a number of queens that bred three distinct yellow-banded workers and a small portion of them would have all of the body jet black in rear of the yellow, and then the balance of the workers would be beautiful and uniform in selection but I have been dubious that they color; but I have been dubious that they were a little touched with black blood and

would not breed from them. I have others that are uniform in color and no black tip-ped ones amongst them. Why is it that ped ones amongst them. Why is it that some of these do not get old and lose the hair off that part of the body also? I can't see why the workers of some queens are deprived of the hair and others are not.

Now, I am doubtful about their purity, and want more light from friend D. and others that have been breeding Italian bees for years. Breeders please be frank.

Virgil City, Mo., June 19. E. LISTON.

For the American Bee Journal. Maury County Bee-Keeper's Society.

The above society had their regular meet-

ing on Saturday, July 1.

Present: W. S. Rainey, Pres., Wm. J. Andrews, Sec., and Treas., S. D. McLean, Travis McLean, J. C. Moore. M. G. Grigsby, R. H. Caskey, J. C. McGaw, J. M. Byers, and other conditions. and others

The proceedings of the last meeting were

The proceedings of the last meeting were read and on motion adopted.

Mr. J. J. Jones, who was appointed at the last meeting to read an essay on honey, not being present, the appointment was continued until next regular meeting.

The President stated that he was in receipt of a letter from Messrs. Chas. Dadant & Son, accompanied with documentary evidence that they were regular importers.

Mr. McLean did not want to see the society entagled any further with what he receipt of the second s

ciety entagled any further with what he regarded as a personal controversy between Mr. Andrews and the Dadants, and he thought these gentlemen should fight it out

between themselves.

The Secretary said that he himself did not wish to occupy the time of the society with it, but in justice to himself, would state that he had never called in question the fact of the Dadants being regular im-porters of Italian bees, but had simply com-plained of the queen sent him and others. After some further remarks on the subject, on the part of the members present the on the part of the members present, the matter was dropped, as not belonging to the business of the society.

J. M. BYERS would like to know if it was advisable to extract honey before it was

capped.
MR. GRIGSBY did not extract until it was capped or the bees had commenced to cap it

S. D. McLean was like Mr. Grigsby, did not extract until honey was ripe, that is un-til the bees commence capping it over, it was then as ripe as it would ever be. He

Mr. McGaw—I would like to ask Mr. McLean what causes honey to sour.

Mr. McGaw and Mr. Caskey had taken

sour honey from boxes and hives.

The members then engaged in an informal discussion about honey for some length of time.

Mr. Caskey, had a number of introduced queen cells destroyed. With queen caged in hives they would nourish cells, but when he killed the queen, the bees would destroy the cells.

Mr. Grigsby had introduced about sixty and had only ten cut out of that number. Thought it best to have queens fertilized

and introduce them.

MR. McLean—Cells built in free colonies are rarely cut out when introduced, but

when reared in a nucleus, especially if there is a scarcity of pollen they will cut them out. Cells when just capped over are very tender, and a critical time to handle them, as the least motion will kill the embryonyment by control of the contro queen they contain.

queen they contain.

MR. GRIGSBY—Do I understand Mr. McLean to say that the handling of the combs with queen cells in them will destroy them?

MR. McLean—No sir, unless the bees are shaken from them, a thing I never do.

MR. GRIGSBY—How long after capping the cell is it before they commence spinning their cocoon? This question remained unanswered. The members engaged in another informal discussion on several topics, lasting an hour or more.

Information discussion of several topics, lasting an hour or more.

MR. GRIGSBY—I move that we establish an experimental department, for the purpose of conducting experiments, and that the President appoint a committee of three teachers are the conductions of the conduction of the to conduct such experiments as may be agreed upon at each meeting.

The motion being seconded by the Secre-

tary was adopted.

The President appointed as said commit-tee M. G. Grigsby, S. D. McLean and Wm. Andrews.

MR. GRIGSBY--I suggest that the committee just appointed make the experiment and ascertain at what age the larvæ passes the stage of being reared into a queen; which suggestion was accepted.

MR. McLean moved that Mr. Grigsby be appointed to read an essay at the next meeting on the management of an apiary to procure the largest amount of honey. Adopted. The society then adjourned to meet the 1st Saturday in October.

WM. J. Andrews,
Sec'y and Treas.

Los Angeles B. K. Meeting.

The Los Angeles (Cal.) Herald says, that on Saturday, June 17th, the bee-keepers of Los Angeles Co. held a council, and that there was a good swarm and they settled on principle. The time was principally occu-pied in the discussion of marketing honey. A degree of earnestness characterized the

proceedings showing that each member was wide awake to his interests.

Prof. Harbison, of San Diege, was introduced to the meeting, who addressed it was the subject they under discussion of upon the subject then under discussion of marketing honey. We are sorry to state that we cannot report his remarks in full. There is no man on the Pacific coast who is better posted and more competent to advise on this subject than the professor. His experience in this department of bee-keeping has been extensive. He well understands the operations of dealers and commission men who control the market. His remarks abounded with good sound sense and facts that were well received. He has had more practical experience in producing and marketing honey than any other man in the United States, consequently his opinion is worthy of much consideration. He urged united co-operation with all the honey producing counties of Southern California. The suggestion was acted upon by the meeting and a committee of four was appointed and instructed to confer with the bee-keepers of San Diego, Ventura, San Bernardino and other counties that may feel disposed to unite in the movement. perience in this department of bee-keeping disposed to unite in the movement.

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The following papers by A. J. Davidson, were read:

A BEAUTIFUL THEORY.

One fine summer morning Mr. Nectar, Mr. Blowhard and Mr. Goodwill met near a beautiful live oak tree, which furnished a cool resting place, when the following con-

versation ensued:

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Mr. B.—Mr. Nectar, you are just the man that Mr. Goodwill and I wished to see most. We have been planning a bee business on a larger scale than most of you Californians have thought of yet. It is a very profitable business, I understand, as it does not require much capital and the labor is easy. We propose to buy a long canon in the mountains, say ten miles long, in which we could locate six or eight aplaries of 500 each and have each swarm supplied with a could locate six or eight apiaries of 500 each, and have each swarm supplied with a new frame that I am about to patent, so adjusted with a groove that the comb can be uncapped in the hive simply by the use of a lever. This honey will then drop into troughs, which will lead to a large tank, and from this tank at each bee yard an iron pipe would lead out to a main pipe that would run from thence to some seaport town, Santa Monica for instance, where it could be run directly on board a vessel.

Nectar—I would like to sell you what bees I have to spare—(aside to Mr. G., for cash)—as when such stupendous operations

cash)—as when such stupendous operations as this one are on foot it would be well for

small enterprises to veil their heads.

Mr. G.—What do you think of the relative merits of the Italian and black bees?

Nectar—It is conceded by almost every intelligent bee-keeper that the Italian is very much superior to the black bee.

Mr. B.—What do you think of the plan that I have indicated? Would you not be glad to take stock in this undertaking?

Nectar—It you would get it started and it

Nectar—If you would get it started and it proved a success in every way, of course. Mr. G.—What would one of those apiaries cost without the innovations of which Mr.

B. speaks? Nectar-First, the grounds and buildings Nectar—First, the grounds and buildings for such an apiary could not well be less than \$4,000. The 500 swarms on the ground in condition for making honey, at \$10 each would be \$5,000. Team, wagon, and conveniences for a family, \$1,000.

Mr. G.—This would be an investment of \$10,000; and would this business pay 1½ per cent. per month on this investment?

cent. per month on this investment?
Nectar—This is an open question. A man of industrious, economical and business habits of course can succeed in almost any industry.

Mr. B.—I have heard that honey could be

raised for five cents per pound, and that it did not cost much to run the business, and I had concluded to run it a few years and retire, but your suggestions have knocked into pi my ideal plans of buying a stone front in the city.

ITALIAN AND GERMAN BEES.

The question is asked often "In what do the Italians excel?" 'In and in breeding' has been steadily practiced with the black has been steadily practiced with the black bee generally from ignorance and frequent-ly by those who knew the advantages of crossing the stock, for lack of time or hav-ing some other industry to occupy part of the time during the breeding season; while with the Italians, queens have been import-ed generally by good practical breeders and

in many cases it is thought stock has been in many cases it is thought stock has been improved by home culture. Then it is logical to infer that if both were alike good when first imported that we would have to give our verdict in favor of the Italians. But when we take into account that they have more strength, can fly farther, and that they have the ability to collect honey from certain trumpet-shaped flowers that the black bee cannot, that they work earlier and ister and are more prolific, these advandal states and state and are more prolific, these advandances. the black bee cannot, that they work earlier and later and are more prolific, these advantages no doubt account for the superior condition of Italian swarms in very trying years when bee forage is scarce. The summer of 1875 for example. There are many things admired and esteemed solely for their beauty. And for those of an aesthetic taste our rich, golden colored favorites would certainly be preferred. And finally I would say it is easier for bee-keepers to keep bees that will keep themselves.

For the American Bee Journal

My Bees.

I went out June 12 and spent a few days with my bees. I found they had gained in strength, but the strong ones had gained more in proportion than the weaker ones. more in proportion than the weaker ones. The very weak swarm, which was dwindling at last report, had succumbed; so, out of 40 put in the cellar last winter, I lost 8 in wintering. I had bought two more colonies from Mrs. Adam Grimm, which made 34 to commence the season with. I extracted 110 lbs. of honey and started 9 new swarms by merely putting in an empty hive a couple of frames of brood with the bees attached, and one or two frames of honey, shaking in some more bees if necessary. Of course all the old bees will fly back to their old home and one or two frames of honey, shaking in some more bees if necessary. Of course all the old bees will fly back to their old home but the young ones will remain and raise a queen. Having the assistance of Dr. H., an intelligent and interested observer, made the work pleasanter. June 28, I visited my bees again but could only spend one day with them and so left the most of them untouched. I took 160 lbs. of extracted honey and started 10 more new swarms. To each and started 10 more new swarms. To each of the new swarms, which I had started on my previous visit, I gave a couple of frames of sealed brood.

I would have started more new swarms but had no more hives ready. It is strange how difficult it is to get hives made exactly as you want them, unless you make them yourself. Last summer I had some made and by a variation of a quarter of an inch in one of the measurements, I could not put a one of the measurements, I could not put a single frame in the hive. Men seem to think that a variation of an eighth or a quarter of an inch does not matter because it's only for a bee hive. I first thought of having frames made shorter so as to fit these 24 hives, and did try two or three of them, but I found myself coming to these hives without thinking with frames of them, but I found myself coming to these hives without thinking, with frames of brood covered with bees from other hives and obliged to whittle off the ends of the top bar of the frame, before getting them into the hive, so I had the whole 24 hives changed. I should have bought, this summer, material ready to nail together, from Oatman & Sons, but feared that in some way there might be some difficulty, as the size of my hives was a little different from the ones they were regularly making.

The having more than one kind of hive in an apiary is a great inconvenience, much

in an apiary is a great inconvenience, much

greater than any one will suppose who has not tried it. Whoever starts with more than one kind will sooner or later be sorry for it, and I cannot urge too strongly upon those who have as yet only five or ten colonies to discard all but one kind of hive.

colonies to discard all but one kind of nive. July 10, I went out and found the bees had been doing some swarming in their own way, as I expected they would. Although I had stopped making swarms for want of hives, my wife was not to be balked in hiving the natural swarms that came, each fixed was all scatts of hives and yet in so she fixed up all sorts of hives and yet in so so fixed up an sorts of fives and yet in such a way as to have frames in them, so that with very little trouble I was able to transfer them, frames and all, into hives which I made. Eight or nine natural swarms were thus saved, and I am afraid I should not have done so well with the material at hand. Three natural swarms came should not have done so well with the material at hand. Three natural swarms came out while I was there. In the case of one of them, I waited for them to return to the hive after settling, as I had seen the queen but a few weeks before and her wings were clipped. To my chagrin they arose in a body and sailed off majestically for parts unknown, leaving me an unwilling spectator of their flight. I consoled myself with the thought that before many weeks I would be with them every day and then they would not play me many such tricks. They had undoubtedly raised a young queen, having probably swarmed some ten days or two weeks previous, and their old queen had been lost or killed.

I overhauled all of the colonies taking

I overhauled all of the colonies taking from the strong ones frames of sealed brood to give to the young swarms I had started, and also to the natural swarms I gave one or two frames of brood each. I took about

or two frames of brood each. I took about 625 lbs. of honey, nearly all extracted.

I have been best satisfied with rotton wood for smoking bees. That from maple, beech or other hard wood, having the dry rot, if just right, will hold fire and slowly burn until all is consumed. Sometimes, however, I have had no rotten wood on hand and almost anything can be made to do in a pinch after a fashion. A pince or do in a pinch, after a fashion. A pipe or cigar is convenient for smokers but I don't think I should want any tobacco about my bees, even if I were a smoker. A roll of rags makes a pretty good smoke. Wood which is not properly rotted, and even that which is perfectly sound may be made to do. Take an ash pan having the bottom covered with ashes and live coals and put therein two or three pieces of wood with the ends well burnt having the burnt ends on the coals and you will have a good smoke, the only trouble being the danger from sparks flying in the hive. a sudden use, where you do not care to keep a sudden use, where you do not care to keep the fire burning, even paper will do very well. Roll the paper losely together, and after setting on fire, put out the blaze, and for temporary purposes it does very well. Lately, being out of rotton wood, I have been well pleased with corn cobs. Keep three or four cobs burning together in an ash pan with hot coals, and if the cobs have heen previously well seasoned or baked in

been previously well seasoned or baked in an oven, they will keep up a steady fire without blazing. Of course different ma-terials can be used in a smoker of any kind.

A word as to the manner of blowing. A continuous stream is not so good as shorter puffs. A continuous stream makes more perfect combustion, more fire but less smoke. If blowing with the mouth, do not empty the lungs, but take in full breaths, only blowing out at each puff the extra quantity in the lungs. This will prepent dizziness. B. LUNDERER.

For the American Bee Journal

Albino Bees.

Being requested by many to give a description of the Albino bees, I will do so, hoping by this means to remove some of the

prejudice formed against them.

When first I discovered them I was supprised and did not know to what to attribute it. I applied to different persons for information, and was advised to continue breeding them until I obtained the pur stock. I did so, and in my experience have found them to be as I shall now attempt to describe them. describe them.

As to their markings, the difference be-As to their markings, the difference between them and the pure Italians is very striking. The head in color approaches near to a purple. Beginning at the waist, they have first three yellow bands, then three white bands, all the bands being very distinct. The white is not muddy and dirty but pure. The wings are finer and of a lighter color than those of the Italian. The only marking of the drone is the hair around the waist being white, giving to it a clean and pretty appearance. clean and pretty appearance.

As to breeding, the queens are very pro-

As to breeding, the queens are very prelific. Pure Albino queens produce pure Albino bees. If an Albino queen mates with an Italian drone, one half of the workers will be pure Albino and the other half will be pure Italian. I have never seen any bearing the marks of Italian and Albino mixed. The markings will not be mixed as in a cross between the Italian and black.

I have found them to be better honey-

I have found them to be better honey-gatherers and more gentle than any other gatherers and more generated race of bees I ever possessed.

D. A. PIKE.

For the American Bee Journal.

Notes from Southern Indiana.

Our honey season just closing has been unusually good. Generally, we have to depend on the poplar for our main supply of surplus honey, but this year we have had in addition to the poplar an unprecedented amount of white clover. Its white bloom seemed to be everywhere—along the wood side, in the old pastures, in the meadows, in the lawns—wherever it could crowd up its head. The very breezes were laden with its fragrance. The bees were literally with its fragrance. The bees were literally "in clover," and right well they seemed to

enjoy it.

I have nearly all my bees in two-story Langstroth hives. Heretofore I have been able to keep them from swarming in those hives; perhaps I could have done so this season if I had kept the honey closely thrown out. But this I could not do, and the bees got the start of me. Before I suspected it, I had several exceedingly large swarms—some of them would have well filled a half bushel measure. Although these were the first swarms I had had for six or seven years, I had no trouble in finding them comfortable homes. ing them comfortable homes.

The honey is of an excellent quality-

thick and of superior flavor. I am not try-ing to sell any of it; I find a very good de-mand for it at my own table. What I can't

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dispose of there, I can give away to my friends. I find this a superb way to make and keep friends. I don't know any more appropriate present to make, or one more pleasingly received, than a few pounds, or a gallon or two even, of nice extracted honey. Try it my bee friends, I assure you it will do you good, as well as the friend to whom you give, and you will be surprised to find how kindly it will make your friend feel and act towards you. Honey is a great pacificator with the human as well as with the bee family.

M. C. Hester.

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For the American Bee Journal.

City Bee-Keeping.

We had a very good honey season, both as regards quantity and quality. Having my bees on the roof of a house, and in the city, puts me to disadvantage when compared with my brethren in the country. My bees have to fly too far to pasturage; and yet up to last Saturday, I had 3,020 fbs. of choice, extracted clover honey from my 22 stands of bees. Some of my neighbors beat this very much, but I have convinced myself that nearness of pasture was the cause of it. Their stands were not stronger than mine, but their honey was coming in faster. There is enough honey with my than mine, but their honey was coming in faster. There is enough honey with my bees yet, ready to be taken off, to make it average 150 fbs. to the hive, or more. And this is a great deal more than our average used to be, 10 or 12 years ago. The average of 15 to 20 fb. to the hive was considered a great harvest at that time. Should we grumble now if we can't sell all our honey in a hurry? The honey market is dull at present, as usual at this time of the year. A month or two later it will be in better demand, however. Chas. F. Muth. Cincinnati, O., July 15, 1876.

For the American Bee Journal.

Foul Brood.

I noted in the last number of the Jour-NAL mention of cure of foul brood by the use of salicylic acid. The method is sub-stantially the same as that which I discovered and published, with the use of sulphite of soda. And I have no doubt but that the acid will cure equally, if not more certainly than the sulphite. Both are powerfully disinfectant and destructive to

infectant and destructive to parasitic growths and germs.

If I could have found any foul brood in this region I would have experimented with this remedy, and also another new one (new ones are being constantly discovered) called sulpho-carbolate of soda. Salicylic acid is perfectly harmless, and is obtained from various sources, one of which is from salicine, the active principle of willow. Meadow sweet and wintergreen also contain it, but the principal source of supply is from phoenol, one of the products of coal tar. When largely diluted it is not unpleasant to the taste. This with sulphocarbolate of soda we use treely and successfully in diptherla, as an internal disinfeccarbolate of soda we use rreety and successfully in diptherla, as an internal disinfectant. If any one is experimenting with foul brood I wish that sulpho-carbolate of soda might have a fair trial.

I have no doubt that foul brood can be thoroughly cured in any hive by disinfectants. But there is no certainty of a cure whose every call of honey which was sealed

unless every cell of honey which was sealed

while the hive was diseased, and every cell which contains diseased larvæ, and every empty cell even, is thoroughly disinfected. And it makes but little difference what the disinfectant is, provided it is harmless to everything but the disease and is a thorough disinfectant. But does it pay? If valuable life was at stake, either human or animal, no amount of pains would be too much to save it, but to my mind the bother and uncertainty of curing a hive that could be so certainty of curing a hive that could be so easily replaced amounts to more than value received, except the pleasure of the consciousness of having mastered the enemy, ie. cured it.

EDWD. P. ABBE. ie. cured it. New Bedford, Mass.

For the American Bee Journal.

Queen Trap.

I wintered 50 stocks of bees out doors; the season here is late, but bees are doing well now. I used a queen trap for the last 5 or 6 seasons, with very good success, catching the queen of first swarms and the swarm returns to the hive after discovering swarm returns to the hive after discovering they have no queen. By taking the trap containing the queen from the old hive which is then removed, and an empty hive with the trap and queen put in its place, the swarm as it returns passes through the trap taking the old queen with them into the empty hive. Sometimes they will cluster and stay 15 or 20 minutes, and at other times hardly give one time to change the hives before they return. Of course, movable frames are necessary in managing bees this way, as in three days after the first swarm has left, the old hive must be examined and all queen cells but one cut out, and the hive left without a trap on it, or the young queens could not get out to mate young queens could not get out to mate with the drones. This trap also retains all the drones that pass into it, and they can be destroyed, let fly, or returned to the hive, as you wish you wish. GEORGE G. Warsaw, Ontario, June 17, 1876. GEORGE GARLICK.

From the Maine Farmer.

Surplus Honey.

A very good way to afford the bees room to store honey, is to cover the hive with section boxes. These I have made 5 inches high, the ends of the sections 1½ in. wide, the tops and bottoms 1½ in. wide. Thus it will be seen the ends are close fitting, while the top and bottom will be open so that the bees can pass through. By attaching comb to the top bars the bees will generally build within the bars, so that when filled the section can be separated, each section containing a single comb. The hive can be entirely covered with these sections, and when partly filled raise the whole up and place another set beneath, and the bees will readily pass down through; and if the honey season holds out, fill both sets, and in good seasons perhaps more. If these section frames are placed across the hive it would make the sheets of comb rather unwieldy to handle or to transport to a distance; so I think it better to place a rest across the centre on top of the frames, and place two shorter sets of sections lengthwise of the hive. There is another advantage in this way, and that is, as the combs run the same way with those in the frames in the body of the hive, no harm will arrive to store honey, is to cover the hive with sec-tion boxes. These I have made 5 inches

if the hive is not level from front to rear, as would be the case in having the sections placed the other way. To keep these sections together while handling, a case made of thin stuff should be made, with a thin strip nailed around the bottom to prevent the sections slipping through. By placing them in this case, they can be put on or taken off without trouble.

If boxes are used, I find it better to make them large enough to have them cover the hive if placed cross-wise. The boxes can be made of a size to suit one's fancy, large or small, though I prefer larger ones, having the set just cover the hive, placing rests upon the bars for the ends of the boxes to rest upon, raising them as high as the sides of the hive project above the frames; thus giving the bees a full passage between the boxes and the top of the frames. I think it well to bore two holes in large boxes 1½ in. in diameter for ingress to the boxes. In one side cut out a circular piece 3 inches in diameter, covered with glass upon the inside by which to display the contents of the box. When the boxes are removed after being filled and the bees have all left them, cover the holes with cloth pasted tightly over them to exclude the moths. This is not always sure to exclude them, however, and consequently they will need looking after occasionally. M. F.

From the English Manual of Bee-Keeping. Pasturage for Bees.

With the exception of an occasional gathering from honey-dew, bees gather the whole of their honey from flowers, and consequently where there are no flowers they cannot thrive. But the term flowers must be taken in a broader sense than meaning such as we cultivate for garden ornaments or home decoration. The inconspicuous blossoms of many trees, the wee modest wild flower, scarcely noticed by passers by, furnish abundant pasturage for bees. Many persons who have lived in the country all their lives, are scarcely aware that our noblest forest trees have flowers at all, but from the brave old oak and the wide spreading beech, bees gather many a pound of honey. An avenue of limes or sycamores, a field of beans or white clover, form a very El Eldorado for the busy bees, their pleasant hum on the snowy hawthorn or the sweet-smelling sallow, (palm, as it is commonly called) is very noticeable when nature is awakening from the gloomy sleep of winter, and our thoughts and feelings are glad with the prospect of returning summer. Where large heaths abound, the bees have a second harvest, and it is a common practice in such localities for bee-keepers to send their hives to the moors for about two months, the trouble and cost being amply repaid by the immense weight of honey brought home, which the common heather yields freely during August and September.

In Scotland and on the Continent cartloads of hives may be seen traveling to and from the heather. Often they are looked after on the spot by some resident cottager who receives a gratuity of 1s. per hive from the proprietors of the stocks. In the south of England this practice is not pursued, although I do not see why it should not be in many places, there being miles of heather

equally available as in Scotland. On the Nile there are bee-barges which travel only at night, stopping in the day-time at any place that affords abundant pasturage for bees, and we read in Pliny that this was likewise the practice in Italy in his time. "As soon," says he, "as the spring food for bees has failed in the valleys near our towns, the hives of bees are put into boats and carried up against the stream of the river in the night in search of better pasturage. The bees go out in the morning in quest of provisions, and return regularly to their hives in the boats with the stores they have collected. This method is continued till the sinking of the boats to a cetain depth in the water shows that the hives ually available as in Scotland. their hives in the boats with the stores they have collected. This method is continued till the sinking of the boats to a certain depth in the water shows that the hives are sufficiently full, and they are then carried back to their former homes, where the honey is taken out of them." And this is still the practice of the Italians who live near the banks of the Po, the river which Pliny instanced particularly in the above-quoted passage. It was the advice of Celsus that after the vernal pastures were consumed, the bees should be transported to places abounding with autumnal flowers, as was done by conveying the bees from Achosia to Attica, from Eubœa and the Cyclad Islands to Scyrus, and also in Sicily, where they were brought to Hybla from other parts of the island. What portion of our fertile land does not afford sustenance for bees? Mr. Alfred Neighbour, in his work, "The Apiary," devotes a chapter to Beekeeping in London. Could we ever imagine a more unpromising field for honey-gathering?—London! Foggy, smoky London! But think a moment. London has parks, squares, gardens, and each of these has trees, flowers and shrubs. What matter if the flowers be dirty—their nectaries secrete the coveted sweet, and the natural filter of the bees will clarify it better than any artificial one could do. Only last year a lady living in Kensington told me she kept bees there. They throve well and had furnished her with a super of fourteen pounds weight. It has been asserted that bees will fly five or six miles for honey, if a supply nearer home be not attainable. They may, but such an extreme labor would not allow the stock to thrive. Too much time and muscular strength would be consumed in making the journey. The great danger to bees is their liability to be tempted into shops, such as grocers, confectioners, etc., where they get bewildered, fly to the window, and in vain attempt to penetrate the glass, they such as grocers, confectioners, etc., where they get bewildered, fly to the window, and in vain attempt to penetrate the glass, they die. Breweries are also fatal places, the sweet work attracting numbers which perish by drowning.

Most bee-keepers have a garden, and in it can be grown many flowers pleasing to the eye, grateful to the nose and useful to the

bees.
Mignonette, borage, honeysuckle, hyacinth, crocus, laurustinus, lavender, lily, primrose and many other flowers are visited by bees, and may well be cultivated with advantage. The arable fields supply buckwheat, beans, mustard, clover and lucerne, which all give an abundant supply of honey; and if we follow America's example, we should sow, when possible, special bee flowers.

Borage has the reputation of being the best of all bee flowers. It blossoms continually from June till November, and is frequented by bees even in moist weather.

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The honey from it is of superior quality, and an acre would support a large number of stocks.

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Dwellers in the country cannot fail to have observed occasionally, that the leaves of the trees and shrubs have a gummy appearance and are sticky to the touch. If a leaf so covered be put to the tongue it will taste sweet. This is honey-dew, and is a secretion of some spieces of aphides, ejected from their abdomen in little squirting streams.

This substance the bees readily gather, and when it is abundant make large additions to their stores. It is generally most plentiful in June or July, and is chiefly found on forest and fruit trees, although often on low-growing bushes. At the season of its greatest abundance, the pleasant hum of the bees engaged on it is very audible.

JOHN HUNTER.

From N. Y. Grocery and Provision Review. National Bee and Fish Culture.

Bee culture—hitherto one of our most neglected yet most profitable industries—is gradually attracting increased attention and slowly assuming its proper importance among our sources of national wealth, while our exports of its product—honey—are already reaching considerable proportions since the production has begun to exceed the demand for home consumption. As we consider the neglect of our people to develop this industry, and the unlimited capacity of the country to produce this wholesome and nutritious article of food, and the annual enormous waste of the product of one vast department of Nature—the floral kingdom—we are tempted to moralize upon the proverbial waste and extravagance of the American people. So many have been our sources of vast and almost inexhaustible wealth, already employed and developed, that we had neglected to look about for wholly unemployed sources, and in the eager pursuit of old, we saw no new ones. This state of primeval extravagance and waste is slowly giving way, however, before harder times, denser population, higher values, and the causes which always operate as a community grows older, to utilize more and more its resources. This tendency has been seen for some years past, in the experiments of our State Governments in the direction of fish culture, until many of them have now a fish commissioner, whose duties are chiefly to stock their rivers which have been deprived of native fish, and to restore this great and almost lost natural source of cheap and free supplies of animal food.

Why should not our governments—na-

Why should not our governments—national and state—stock our fields with the "busy little bees," as well as our streams with fish?

The untold and unknown wealth of flowers is now largely wasted. Like rivers they are performing but half and less than half their natural functions. It would, perhaps, cause a smile of derision to suggest the paying of the national debt by stocking the country with bees. Yet the opinions of authorities, and their estimates, state that the unutilized honey of the flowers is wasted annually in sufficient quantities, for want of bees to gather it, to pay the interest, if not the principal of the national debt.

Mr. Harbison, the great apiarian of California, estimates that the evaporation of honey from the flowers of that State causes an annual loss greater than its gold product. Why then should not this industry receive government recognition as well as fish culture? Here is one vast domain of nature, created not only for the eye, but for the taste and the stomach, left literally to "waste its sweetness annually on the desert air," while millions of our people are but half fed, and all, simply for the want of the "busy little bees" to gather it, whom our ignorance, cruelty and neglect have left to be destroyed, yearly, in order to get the fruits of their labor, which, by a proper system could be made to yield more than four-fold greater returns, ahd at the same time not rob these workers of their winter stores. Certainly the government should take steps to protect the most productive and industrious of our "workers" from the ruthless depredations of the human drone, and at the same time repair the damages done by their decimation, by importing Italian queens for breeding rapidly, as is now the custom among apiarists. This can be done more rapidly than fish can be bred, and there is no good reason, in fact none at all, why this step should not be taken.

and there is no good reason, in fact none at all, why this step should not be taken.

Indeed, we are told, that those interested in bee culture will endeavor to place the matter before Congress at the next session, with a view to this end, and we hope such will be the case, and that it will succeed.

From the Phrenological Journal.

The Australian Bee-Hunter.

Insect food is much esteemed by the Australians, especially honey. In the procuring of the latter they show great agility and no little ingenuity; but it will be seen that the intellectual skill of the American bee-hunter has a great advantage over these untutored savages. When a native sees a bee about the flowers and wishes to find the honey, he repairs to the nearest pool, and, having filled his mouth with water, stretches himself on the bank of the pool, and patiently awaits the arrival of the bee. After awhile one is sure to come and drink, and the hunter, watching his opportunity, blows the water from his mouth over it, stunning it for a moment. Before it can recover itself, he seizes it, and by means of a little gum attaches to its body a tuft of white down obtained from one of the trees. As soon as it is released the insect of course makes for its nest, but its flight is somewhat retarded by the down. Now ensues a race. Away goes the hunter after the bee at his fullest speed. Whatever obstacle he meets with on his course he leaps over or plunges through, if possible, making light of the severe bruises from falls sustained in his headlong career. Having thus tracked the bee to its nest, the Australian looses no time in ascending to the spot, if in a tree, taking with him a hatchet, a basket and some dry leaves of grass. He lights the leaves, and under cover of the smoke, chops away the wood until the combs are exposed, then putting these in his basket, he descends and departs with his booty. Should the nest be a very large one, he is supplied by his friend, whom he acquaints with hid sliccovery, with baskets or other vessels for its transportation from the tree to his hut.

Our Letter Box.

Webster Co., Iowa, July 8, 1876.—"Basswood is in full bloom. Bees are busy. I expect to extract on Monday. I have 33 stands, and they never have done better than this spring."

Piatt Co., Ill., July 11, 1876.—"Bees are doing well here this season. I prize The Journal very highly, and hope soon to send you a few more new subscribers."

J. KEENAN.

Harrison Co., Mo., July 7, 1876.—"Bees never did better in this county than now."

ISAAC S. BRYANT.

Windsor, Ill., July 6, 1876.—"Bees are doing unusually well in this neighborhood. Our surplus is usually obtained in the fall only, but I have already taken 800 lbs. of white clover, about half comb and half extracted."

Madison Co., Iowa, June 24, 1876.—"I had full 2,000 lbs. of honey last season. Our bees averaged 50 lbs. or more to the colony, last season. I lost none from disease in the winter."

Indianapolis, Ind., July 8, 1876.—"I have had good success with my bees. I wintered 40 colonies, and lost but one, and that was queenless. I sold 2 early stocks for \$40, before increasing; since then, have sold 15 more at \$15 *each, and have extracted 1,000 Bs. of honey. I have now 120 stocks in good condition, which I can dispose of at \$10 each. I wish the old American Bee Journal much success."

W. A. Schofield.

Buchanan County, Iowa, June 27, 1876.—
"My bees are doing well. I lost but one swarm in wintering. In the spring of 1875 I had 7 swarms. I sold \$80 worth of box and extracted honey, and put 21 swarms in the cellar last fall. I got 20 to 25 cents per pound for the honey. The Journal has been of great service to me. I could not get along without it."

E. P. Brintnall.

Douglas Co., Kansas, July 14, 1876.—"My bees are doing finely. Have 40 stands Italians and hybrids." C. E. DALLAS.

Marshall Co., Ill., July 17, 1876.—"I have now 41 stands of bees, and they have done well this season. I am making what I think is the most convenient hive. I have been thinking of sending one to the Journal office; but as it is not patented don't know that it would pay me to do so, unless some might wish to make others from it—only buying my sample. I have sold over 200 hives to one man for his own use.

John Roberts.

[If you send us one, we will examine it, and state what we candidly think of it.—ED.]

Hancock Co., July 17, 1876.—"My bees are doing well. I started with 16 colonies this spring, and now I have 52 colonies in good condition." WILLIAM THOMAS.

Fulton Co., Ky., June 11, 1876—"My bees are doing well this spring. From a few stands I got 120 lbs. nice extracted honey; obtained from a small white clover, the first I ever got from such. Some stocks were weak in the spring, owing to the effect of cheap hives. I always get my main crop in the fall."

G. ILISCH.

Warren Co., Pa., June 7, 1876.—"I cannot consent to forgo the pleasure of the monthly visit of your excellent JOURNAL. With the exception of one or two numbers, I have a complete file from No. 1, Vol. I, to the present time. I have ten Vols. bound, and I prize them highly. My 150 colonies of yellow Italians make melody in the valley of the Brokenstraw, among the hills of the old Key-Stone State, with their busy hum. Long live The American Ber Journal!"

Hadley, Ill., June 17, 1876.—"I have kept bees for the last 20 years and I never knew that the common speckled grass frog would eat bees till to-day. I saw one sitting on the bottom board; I caught him; he had a number of bee stings in his mouth. I looked around the bee yard and I caught four; all had bee stings sticking in their mouths. Henceforth, I shall send all frogs caught in my bee yard to the frog land. My bees commenced swarming last week. The patures are white with clover, and it is yielding honey this year. We are having a great deal of high wind for this time of the year. I have 94 stands; the most of them in fine condition. Some of the best ones worked a little in boxes during fruit blossoms. My bees are almost all pure Italians. It looks now as though we were going to have a good season once more." F. SEARLES.

Sangamon Co., Ill., June 15, 1876.—"We have a remarkable white clover crop, and where bees were in a condition to gather, there are no lack of good results, but many colonies derived but little from a profuse fruit bloom, in consequence of early cool weather; they were too feeble to take the floods of nectar that perfume the atmosphere in this section. There has been much swarming from box hives and the smaller brood chambers, but where 2,000 cubic inches of brood chamber are provided, it is more rare. With me there has been a terrible fatality with queens, having lost 5 out of 12 colonies since I put them on their summer stands. In some cases it was too early to raise queens and I doubled up the swarms. Three at least, did not die of old age. I have blacks, hybrids, and Italians, but the 'golden bands' will keep ahead."

July 5.—"Honey flows abundant. Bees scarcely halt for dripping honey, if at all, and where properly managed (not managed to death) will make handsome returns for spring and summer. Have had fatality

July 5.—"Honey flows abundant. Bees scarcely halt for dripping honey, if at all. and where properly managed (not managed to death) will make handsome returns for spring and summer. Have had fatality with queens that has puzzled me—unless the almost unparalleled number and variety of birds is an answer, for young queens. I am satisfied that bee culture can be made a success here, though but little forest range within reach of us. Am pleased at the better spirit that prevails in the fraternity. Less hobbies and more truth-seeking, more live and let live. Ye editors have much to do for the general weal."

W. W. CURNUTT.

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take frie ED. Old Fort, N. C., July 21, 1876.—"Bees are doing well here." RUFUS MORGAN.

Allen, Mich., July 20, 1876.—"My bees have done splendidly this season, had 4 swarms in the spring and have 19 now, all Italians; no other on my place."

R. SOUTHWORTH.

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Schoharie Co., N. Y., July 12, 1876.—"My bees are doing well, but I hear complaints from other bee-keepers that their bees are not doing what they ought to, in box home or in swarms; and that they are weak. One man told me that he had a capital hive last season; it sent out three swarms, and that he would not take \$10 for it. I remark-ed to him that if he and the old hive lived ed to him that it he and the old hive lived until the next spring, that he would be glad to accept a less offer for it. He was positive that it would live over, and wouldn't thank any man to offer him less than \$10 for it. But alas, it went under last winter. I could not prevail on him to return all swarms after the first. The weather here for a few days has been quite warm.

ABM. L. STANTON.

Carroll Co., Iowa, July 13, 1876.—"My bees are doing well. I have 25 stands, some Italians and some blacks. I like the Italians best. As to their crossness I don't see much difference. I have kept bees three years, and have been taking the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL during all the time; I like it well, and wish it success." R. DICKSON.

Dodge Co., Wis., July 18, 1876.—"It is quite a while since I last wrote. I had quite a rough time this spring. I had too much to take care of, as much as 20 different apiaries, and 24 miles between the farthest; besides I have to furnish all the natriest; besides I have to furnish all the materials for them, so I was not out of employment. We don't believe in box honey here. We get at the rate of 12 lbs. per day now by using little frames on top, 6x17 in., 9 to the hive. We can't use comb honey; for honey is so abundant now that we must empty every 3 days. I have opened several to-day and found the entire centre as well as the side growded with honey; now what as the side crowded with honey; now, what will become of such a hive, with all boxes on top? Get the swarming fever and swarm until no brood, no bees, or queen is left. 1 also made more discoveries worth telling, but I will only mention one. I am particular to get nothing but pure stock, particular to get nothing but pure stock, and keep only pure drones. I had a queen to-day that was getting ready to fly. I went to the best stock, got 25 or more drones, put them in the nucleus and watched for an hour. I then opened, and to my surprise, the queen was fertile. I am sure of two, with both good wings. You can't dispute this with me for I watched in front this with me, for I watched in front. JOHN H. GUENTHER.

[This rather sounds as if fertilization had taken place within the hive. The ability to control fertilization is very desirable, but most bee-keepers have given it up as unattainable. There have been a good many reports of success but somehow it always turned out that there had been some mistake in observation. We hope, however, friend G. will continue his experiments.-ED.

Madison Co., Ill., July 2I, 1876.—"In middle and southern Illinois, the spring season was late, but the summer came in well, and has given strong increase of swarms."

HENRY BOSSHARD.

Hamilton, Ont., July 11, 1876.-"The Rubber Gloves you sent me are received. I was informed that bees would not sting through them—but I don't want anyone to say that again.".

J. A. WATERHOUSE.

[We think it is something rare for bees to sting through rubber gloves, but we think most bee-keepers would consider any kind of gloves a nuisance.-ED.]

Waterloo, Pa., July 19, 1876.—"Bees are doing very well here thus far—not swarm-ing much but laying by large stores of honey. With Winder's Choice Extractor in noney. With winder's choice Exhauster in use they can be made pay a large per centage this season. I am using the Farmer's Hive, by Reynolds & Brooks, with my own improvement for wintering. For extractional convenience and shilts. Improvement for wintering. For extracting and general convenience and ability, I think it has no superior. I have an Italian queen 5 years old, doing well. This season she has produced as many bees and as few drones as any queen in my apiary of 38 colonies. She is unusually large and her bees great workers. Can any one beat that?"

Grand View, Ky., July 17, 1876.—I have one stand that has swarmed three times. While one of my young queens has plenty of room, I frequently find two or three eggs in one cell. Why is this? J. C. STITH.

A young queen on first commencing to lay sometimes works a little irregularly. Whilst there may in some cases be plenty of empty comb there may be only a small portion properly taken care of by the bees, in which case the queen may lay more than one egg in a cell.-ED.]

I have 20 stands of bees, part black and part Italian. I made an effort and have partially succeeded in Italianizing my blacks. Have met with singular experience in so doing. I have not failed in one instance to get my queens to come out of cells all right, but 3 to 5 days after they hatched out the queens would mysteriously disappear. I am not mistaken in this, as the colonies would again accept queen cells. I have lost 20 or 25 queens in trying to Italianhave lost 20 or 25 queens in trying to Italian-ize 15 stocks. Has any of your readers had such trouble? I have tried so far in vain to learn the cause of the disappearance of my fine queens."

J. H. W.

Your queens were probably lost on their trip to meet the drones. A young queen on her bridal trip may be caught by birds, or she may enter the wrong hive on her return and be killed by the bees. The latter is more likely to occur if the hives are near together and of the same color. Such a large loss is unusual.

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